

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES
NO.45
APRIL
US \$1.50
CAN \$1.65



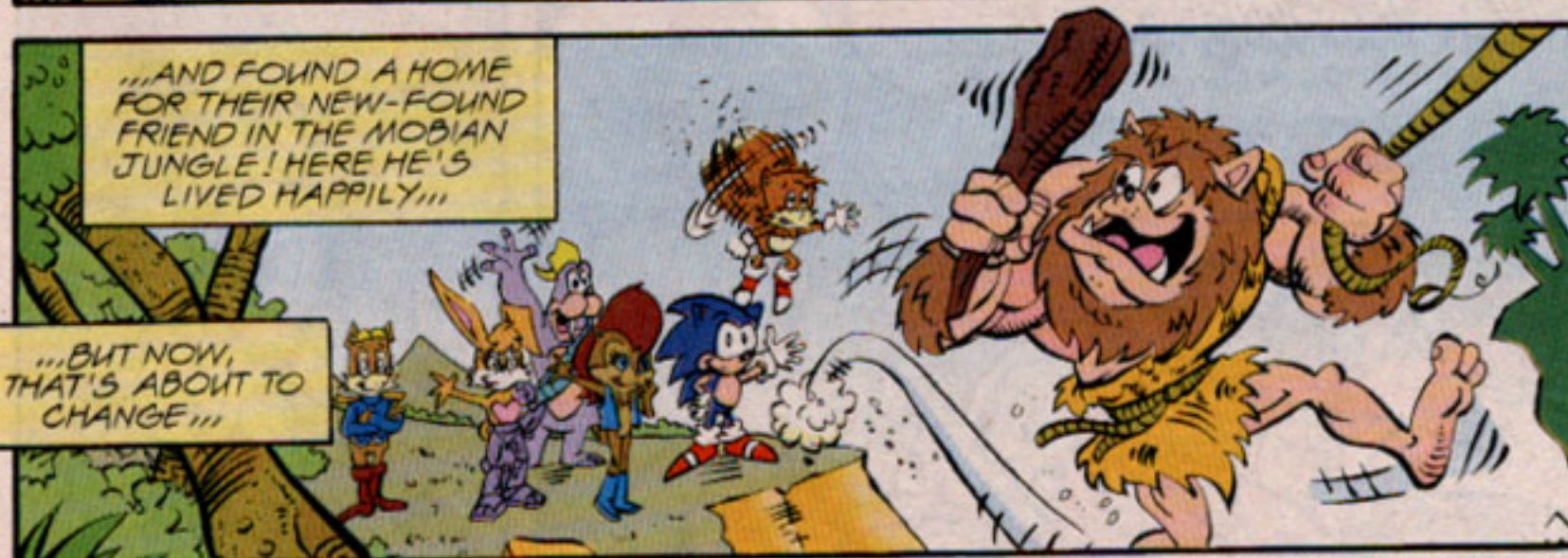
SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



Turtling Co.
Productions
Kaifuu.Com

SPAZ
BT



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

GUERRILLA THRILLER

PART I

HAS GOT TO BE
TOLD ABOUT THIS...
BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE!

BUT, DOCTOR ROBOTNIK,
MANY OF YOUR ENEMIES ARE
HIDING IN THE MOBIAN JUNGLE!
IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT WE
ESTABLISH A COMMAND
CENTER THERE!

SNIVELY, YOU
IDIOT! YOU KNOW
HOW I **HATE** THE
JUNGLE...

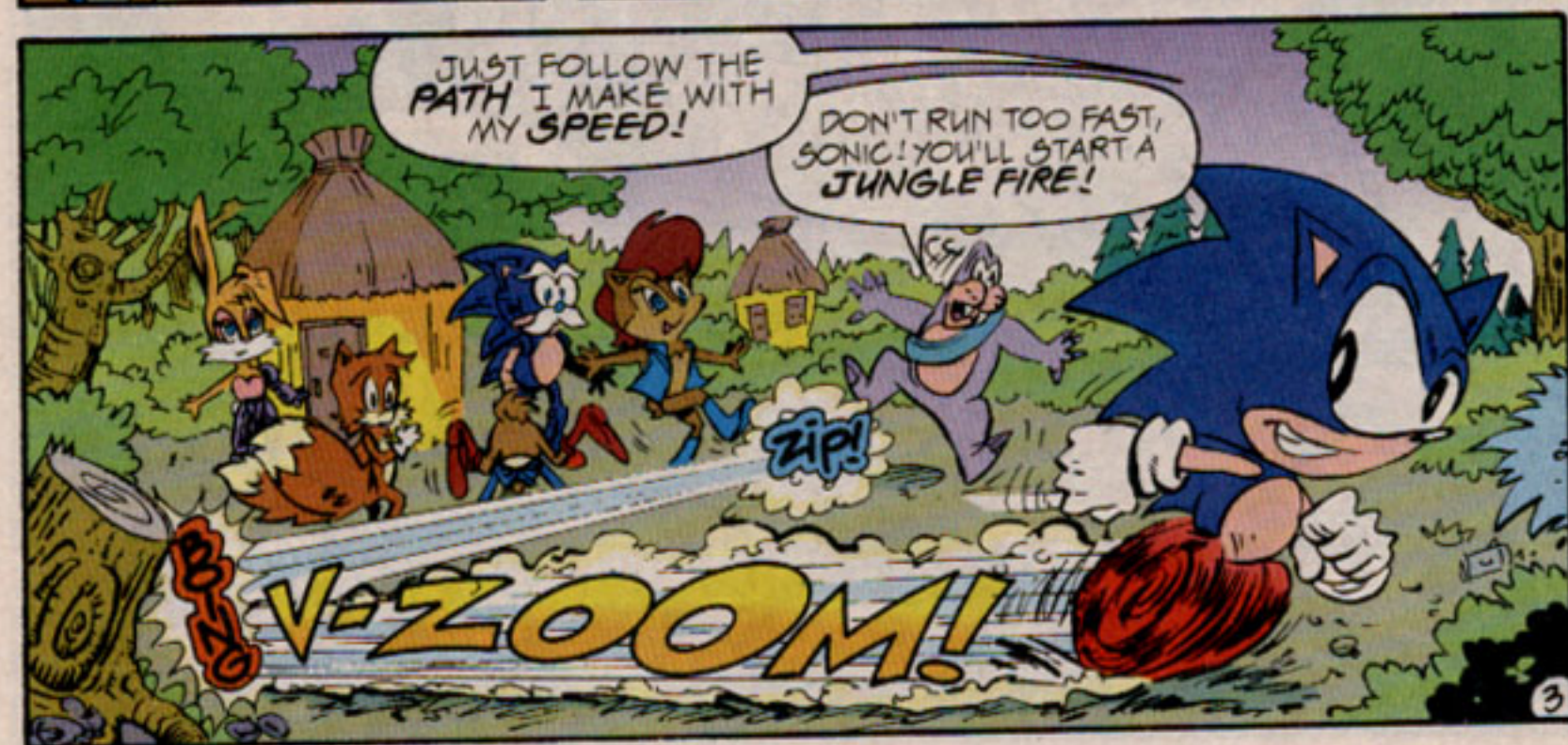
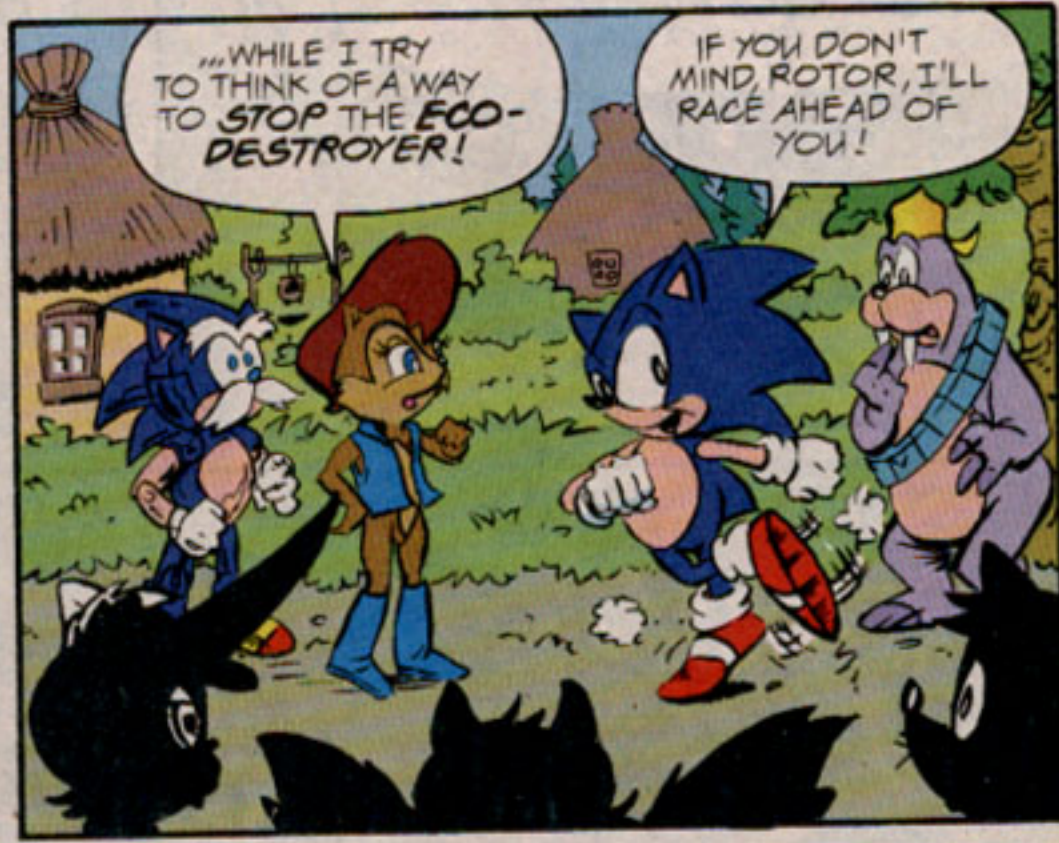
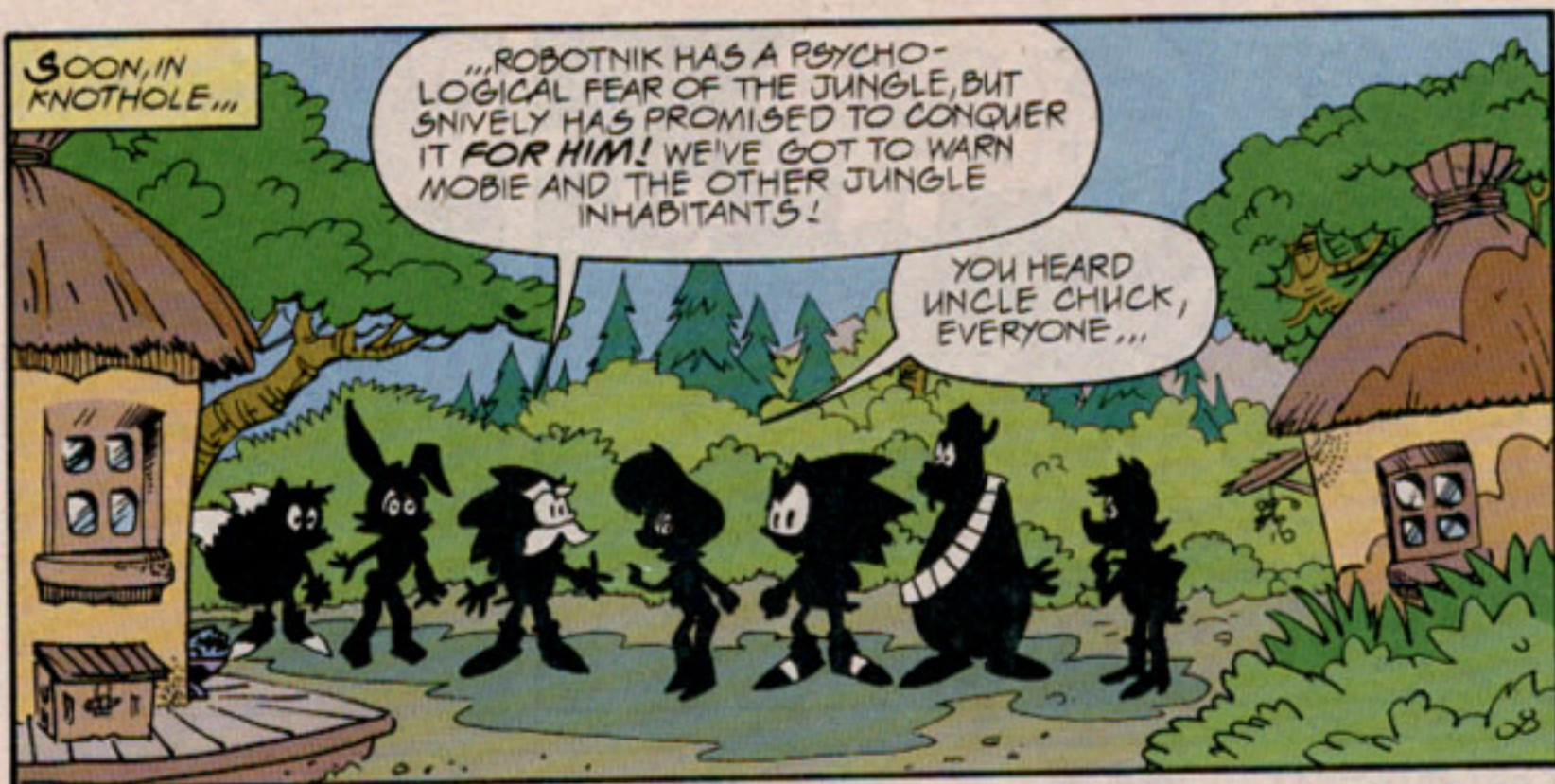
WRITER - ANGELO DECESARE
PENCILER - DAVE MANAK
INKER - JAY OLIVERAS
LETTERER - JEFF POWELL
COLORIST - BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITOR - J. FREDDY GABRIE

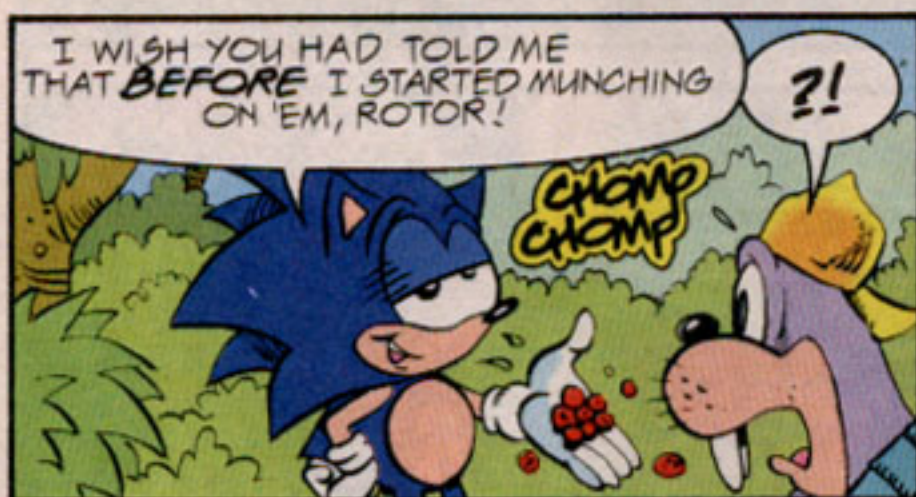
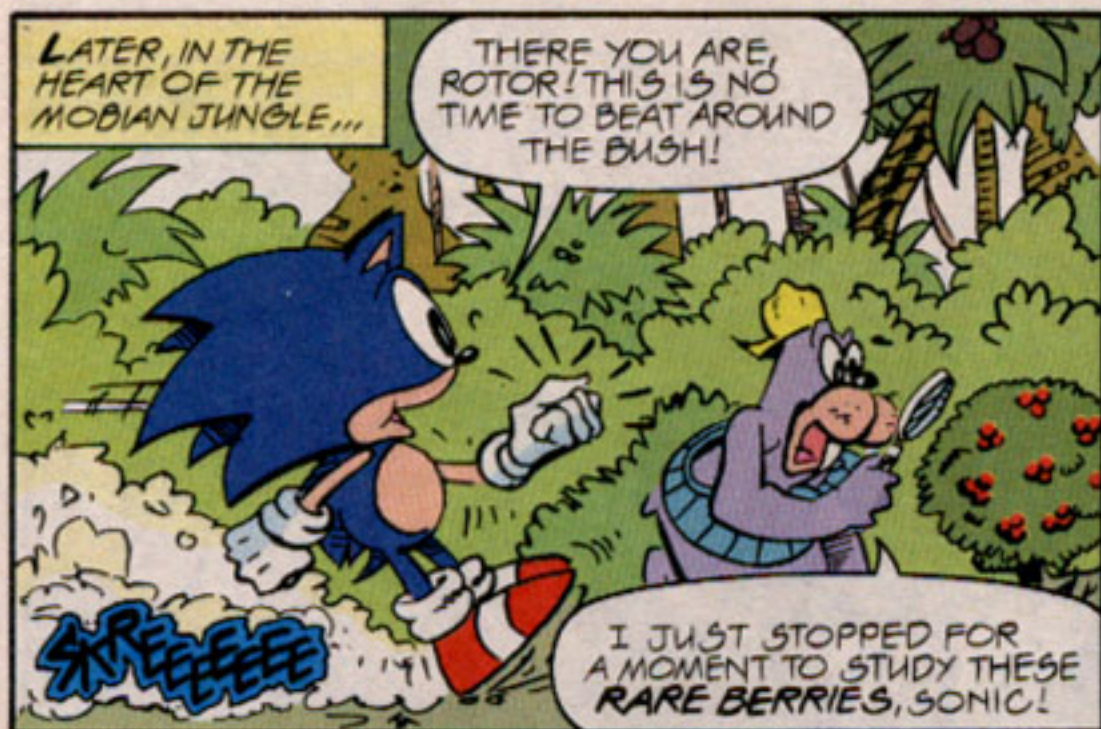
MNG. EDITOR - VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF - RICHARD GOLDWATER

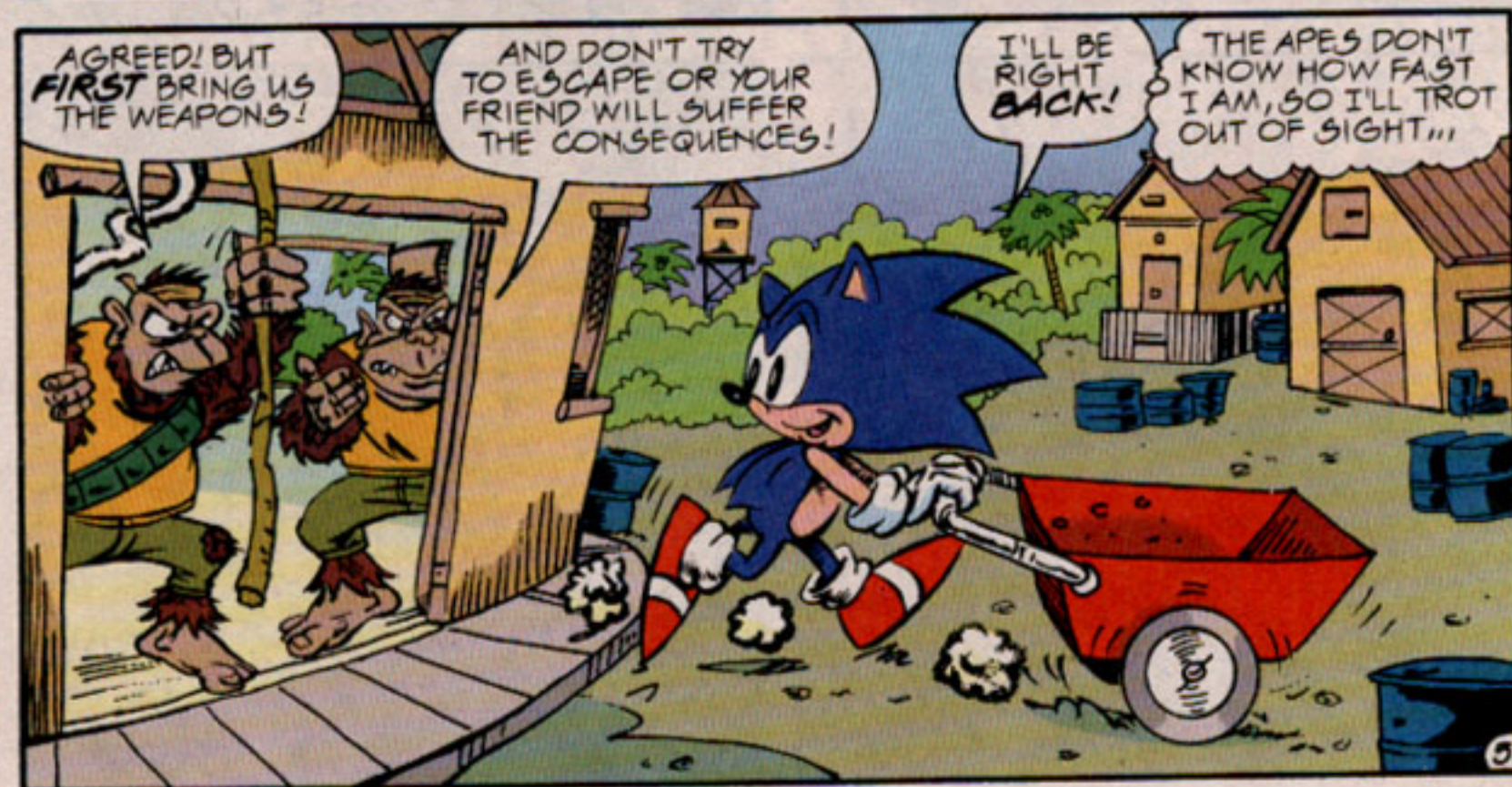
WITH ITS **HOT, HUMID TEMPER-
ATHRES** AND ALL THOSE **PLANTS** AND
VINES SURROUNDING YOU AND
THE **WILD ANIMALS** WATCHING YOU...
AND...AND...

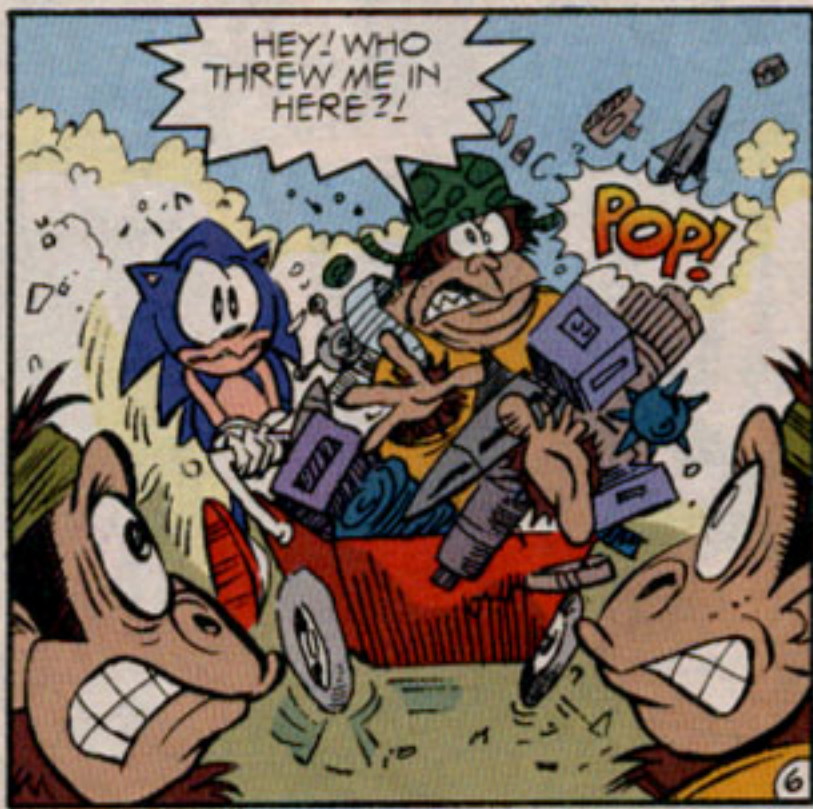
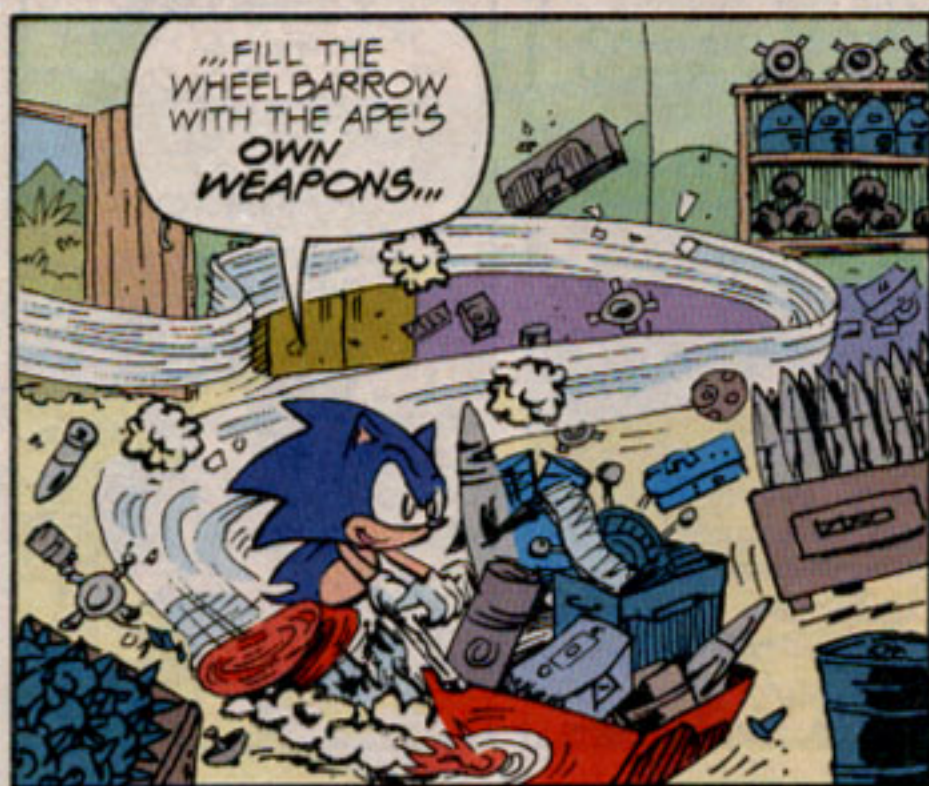
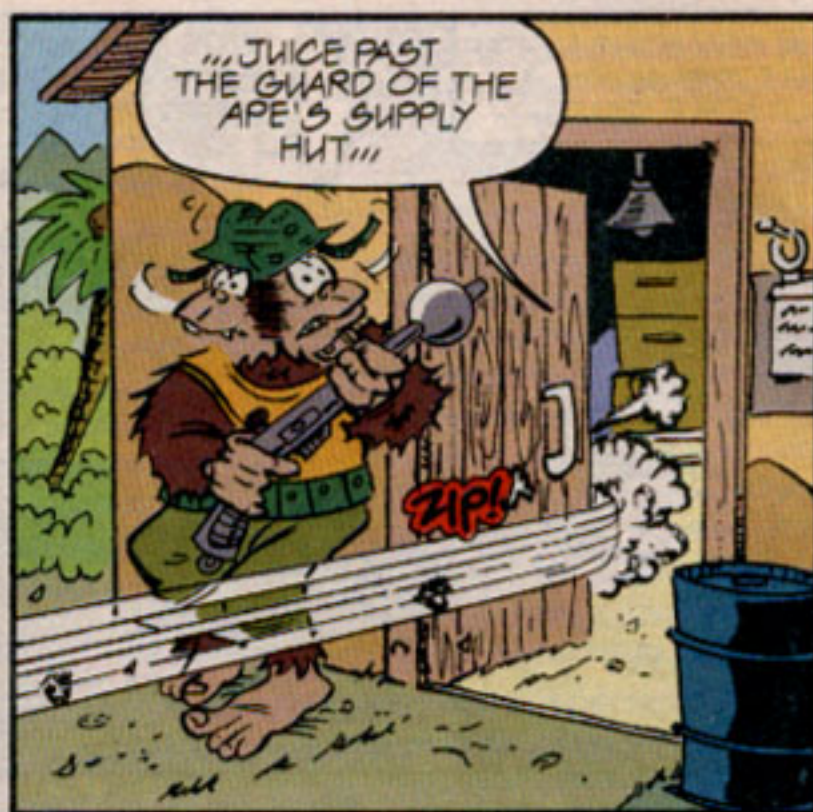
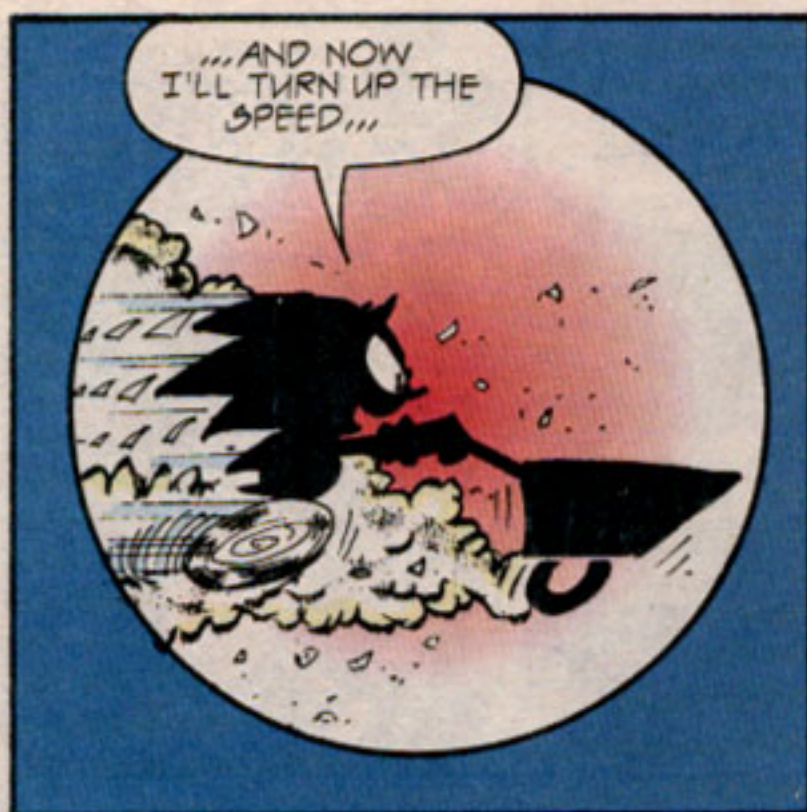
SIR, I
GUARANTEE
YOU WON'T
HAVE TO **SET**
FOOT INSIDE
THE JUNGLE...

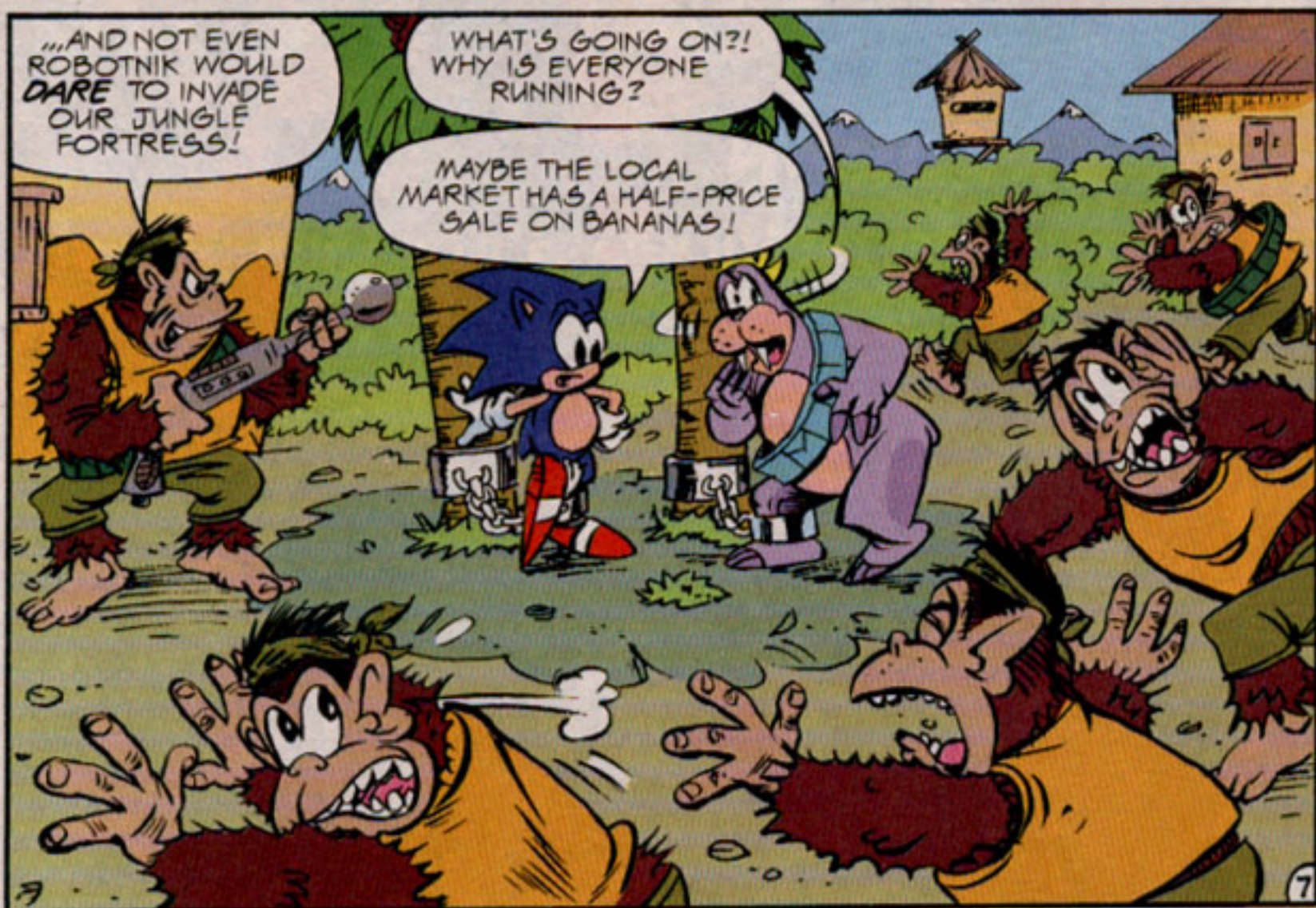
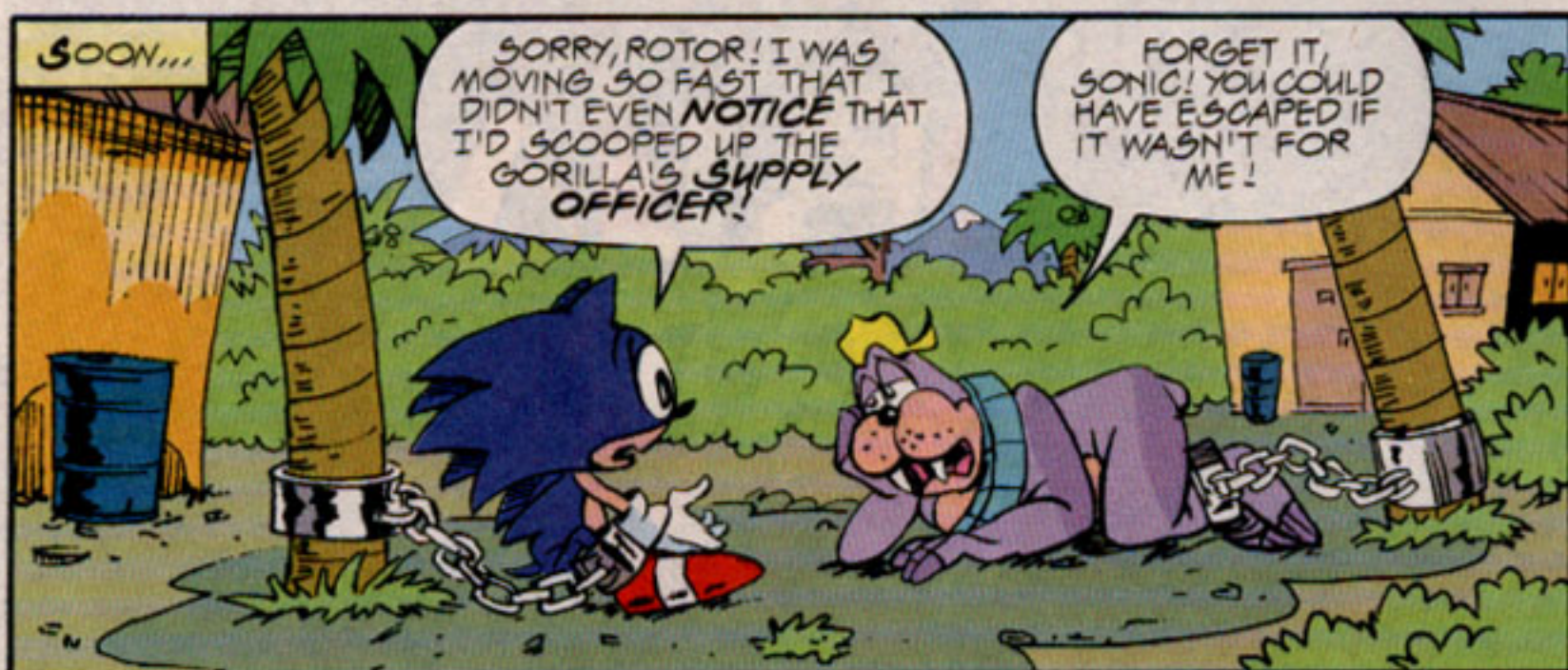
"THE **ECO-
DESTROYER**
WILL DO **ALL**
THE **WORK!**"













SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

GUERRILLA THRILLER

PART II

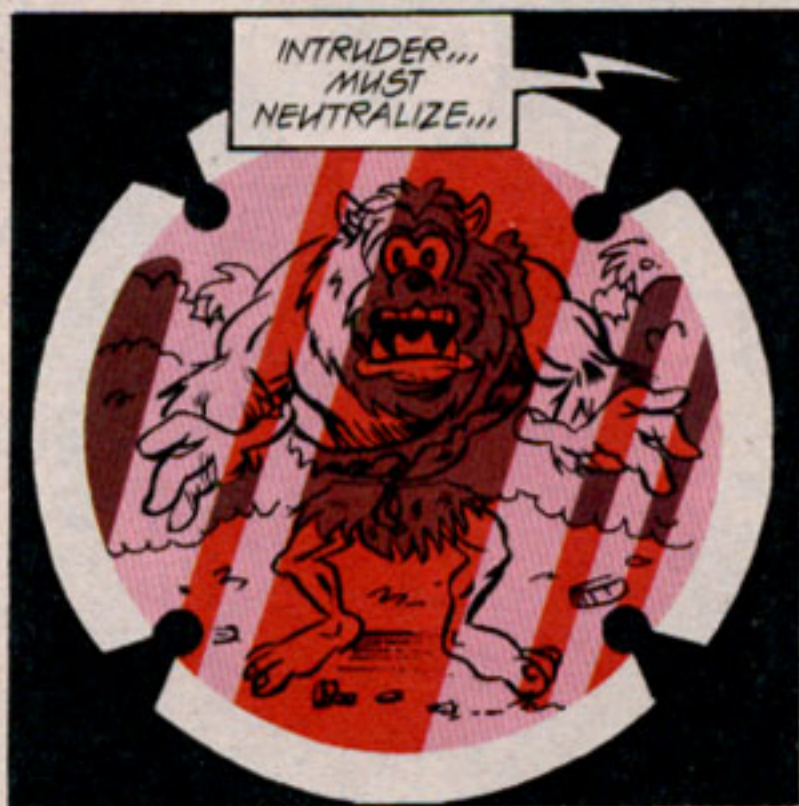
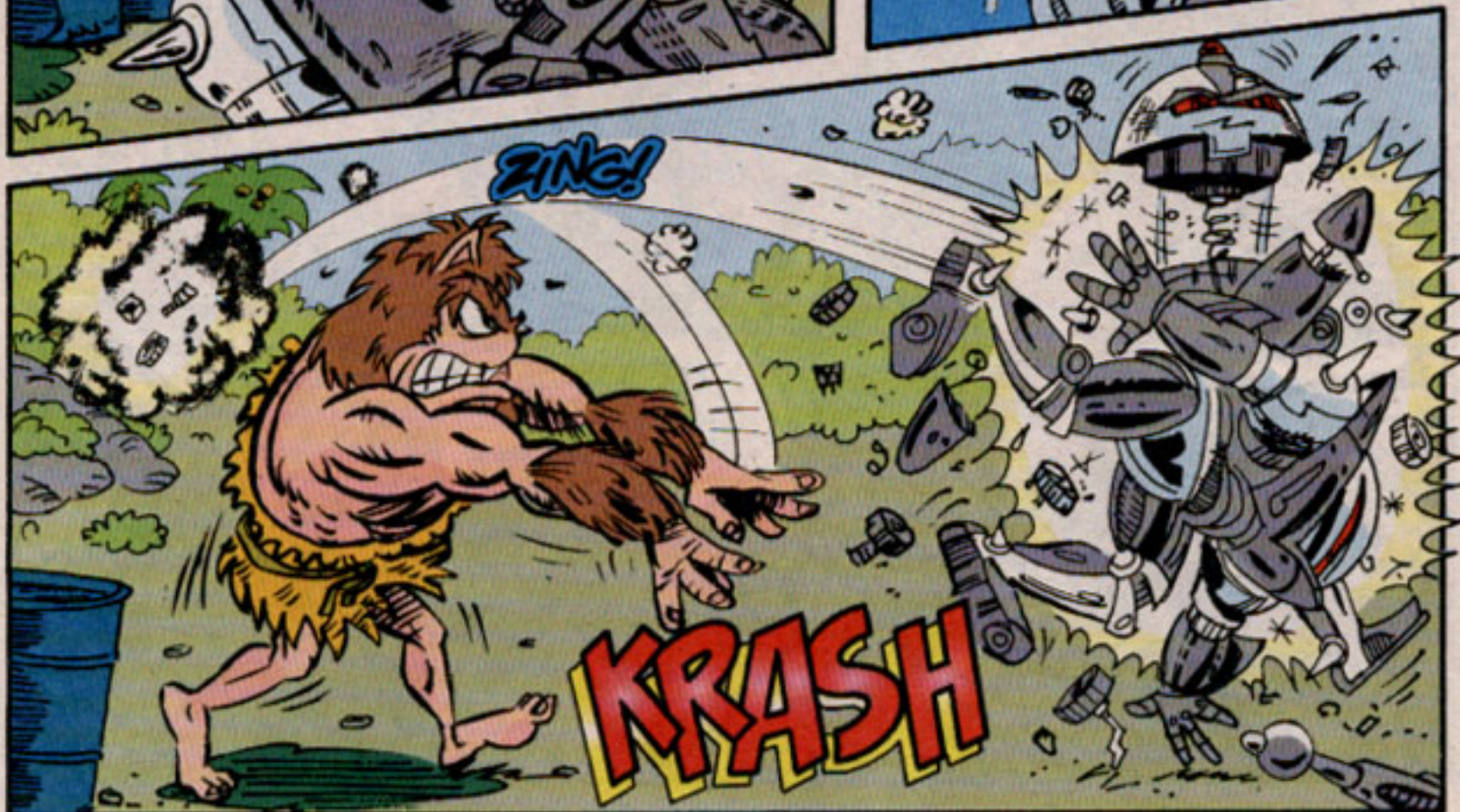
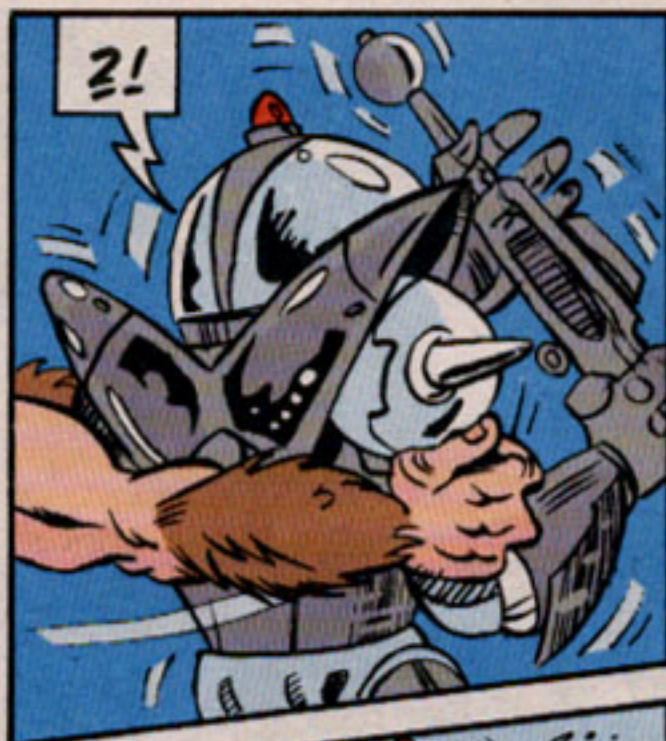
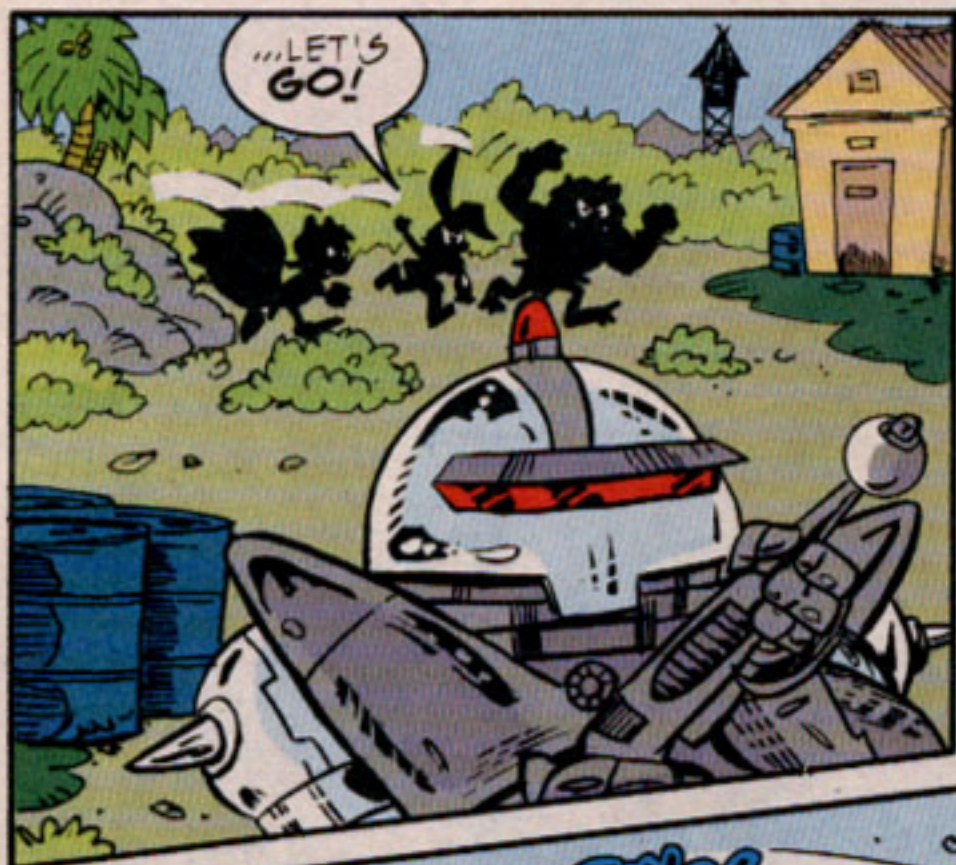
WHAT A **SURPRISE!**
WHEN DR. ROBOTNIK SEES
THAT I'VE CAPTURED YOU,
HE'LL APPOINT ME
CO-DICTATOR!

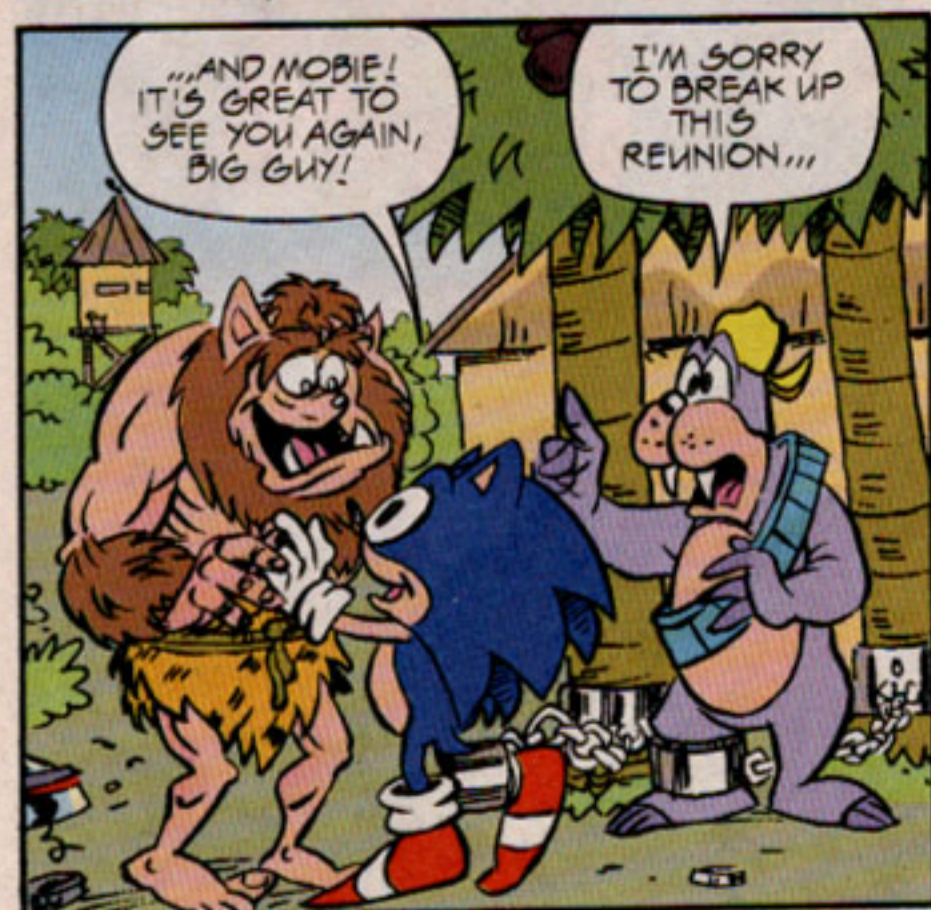
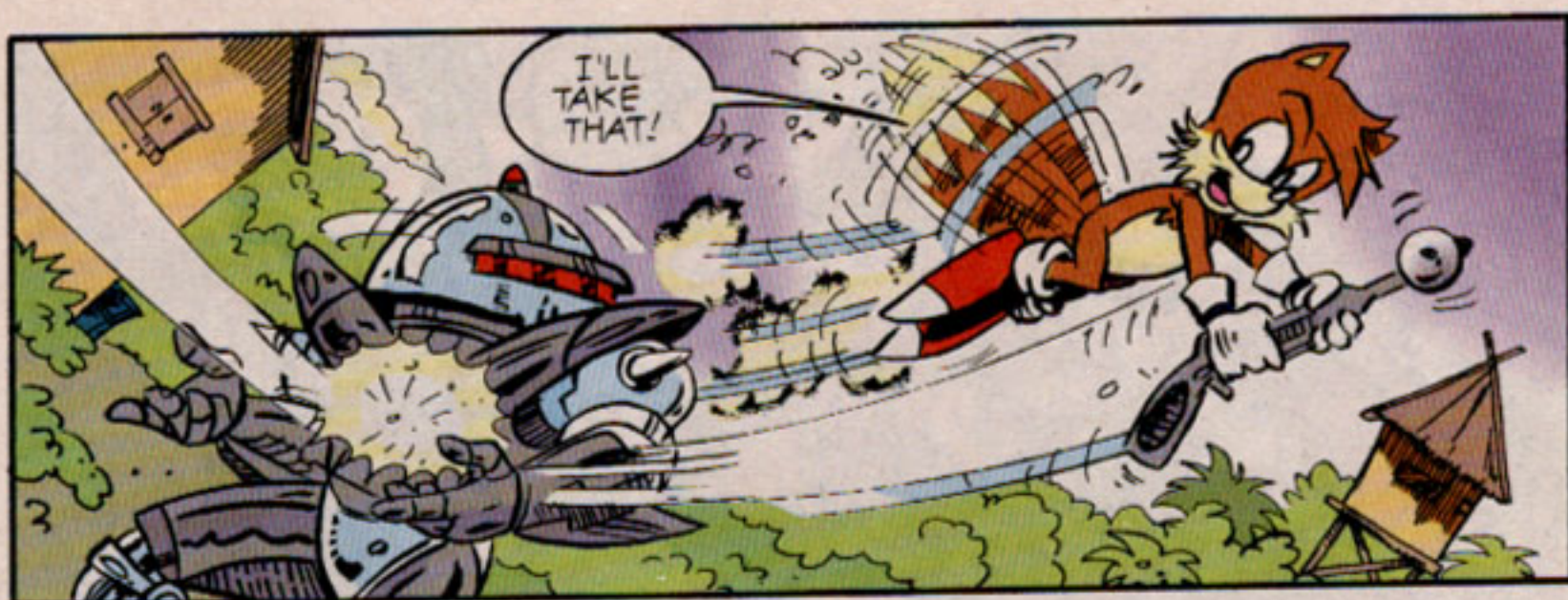
THE **GORILLAS**
CAPTURED ME **SNIV-NOSE!**
YOU CAN'T EVEN **CATCH**
YOUR **BREATH!**

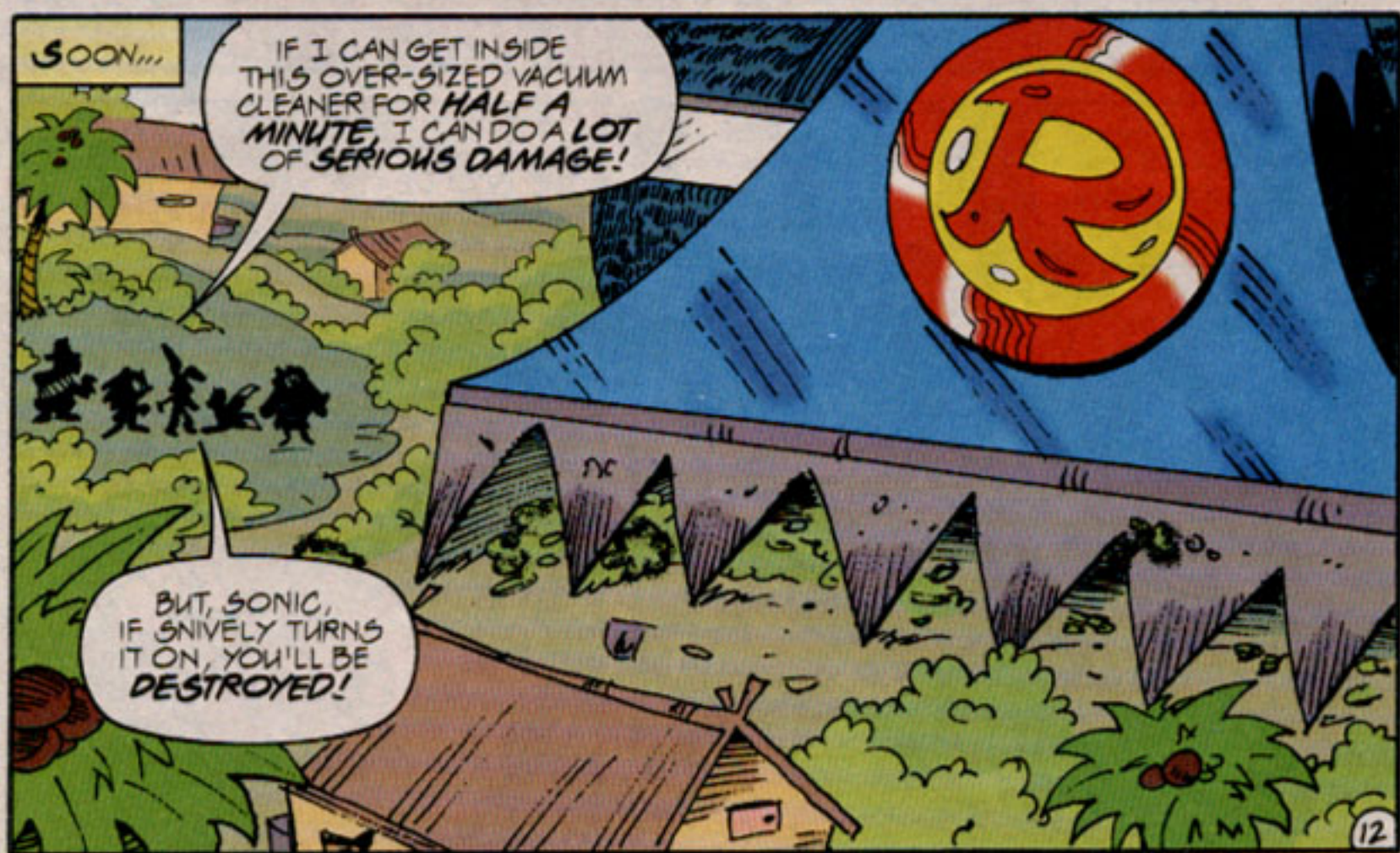
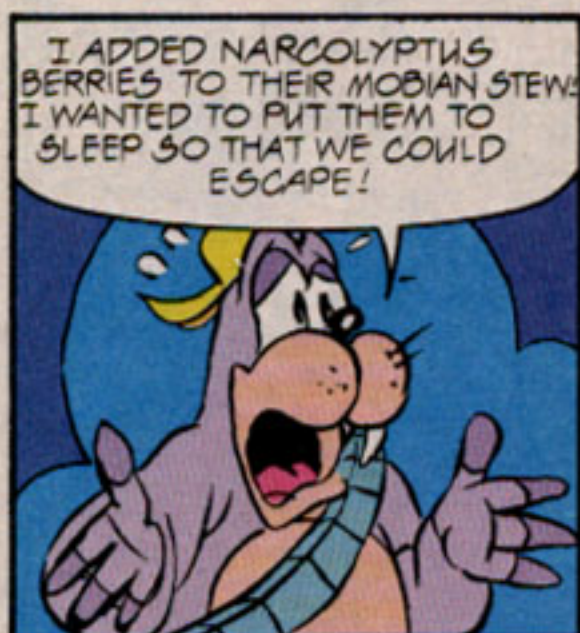
AND I LIKE
YOUR **HAT!** WHEN
DID YOU START
WEARING A **TEEPEE**
ON YOUR HEAD?

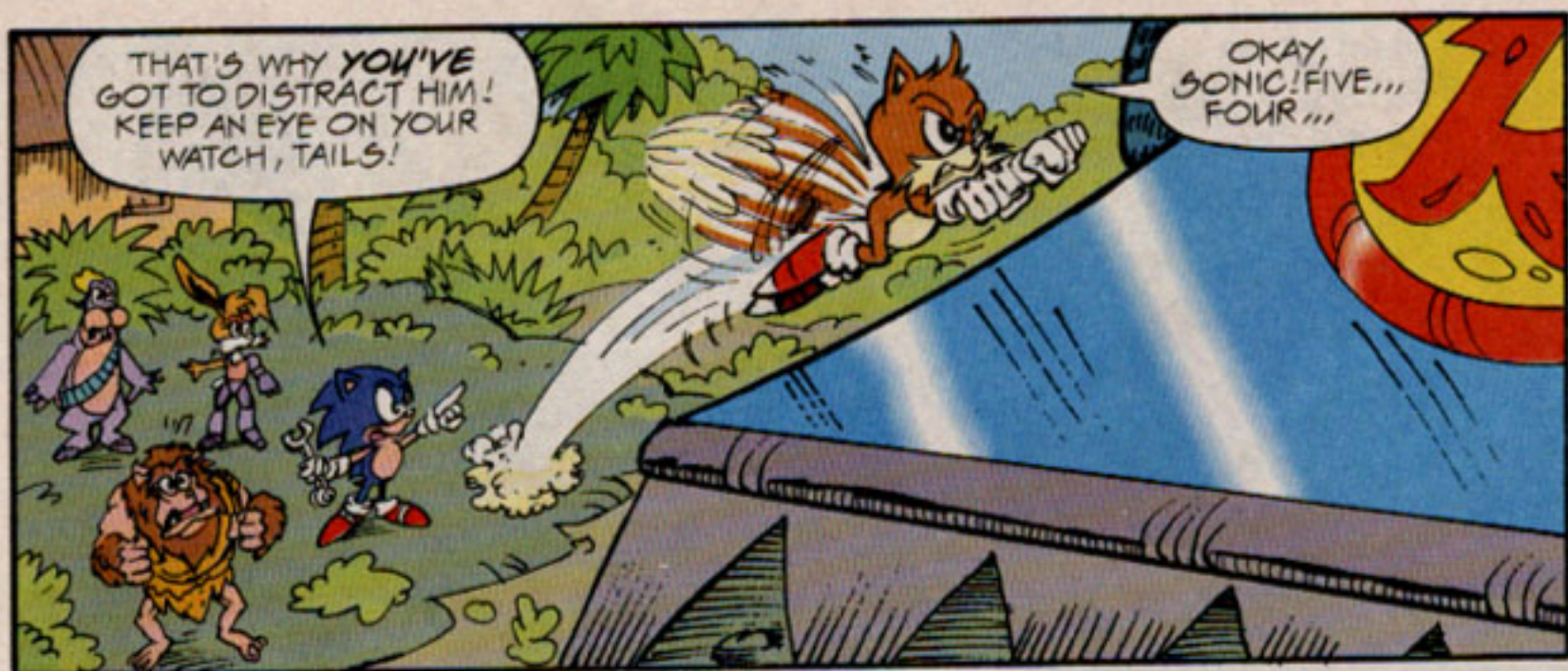
VERY FUNNY, HEDGEHOG!
WE'LL SEE WHO LAUGHS WHEN
DOCTOR ROBOTNIK ARRIVES
AND ORDERS YOU TO BE
ROBOTICIZED!

HE'S
LEAVING!
GET
READY!!!



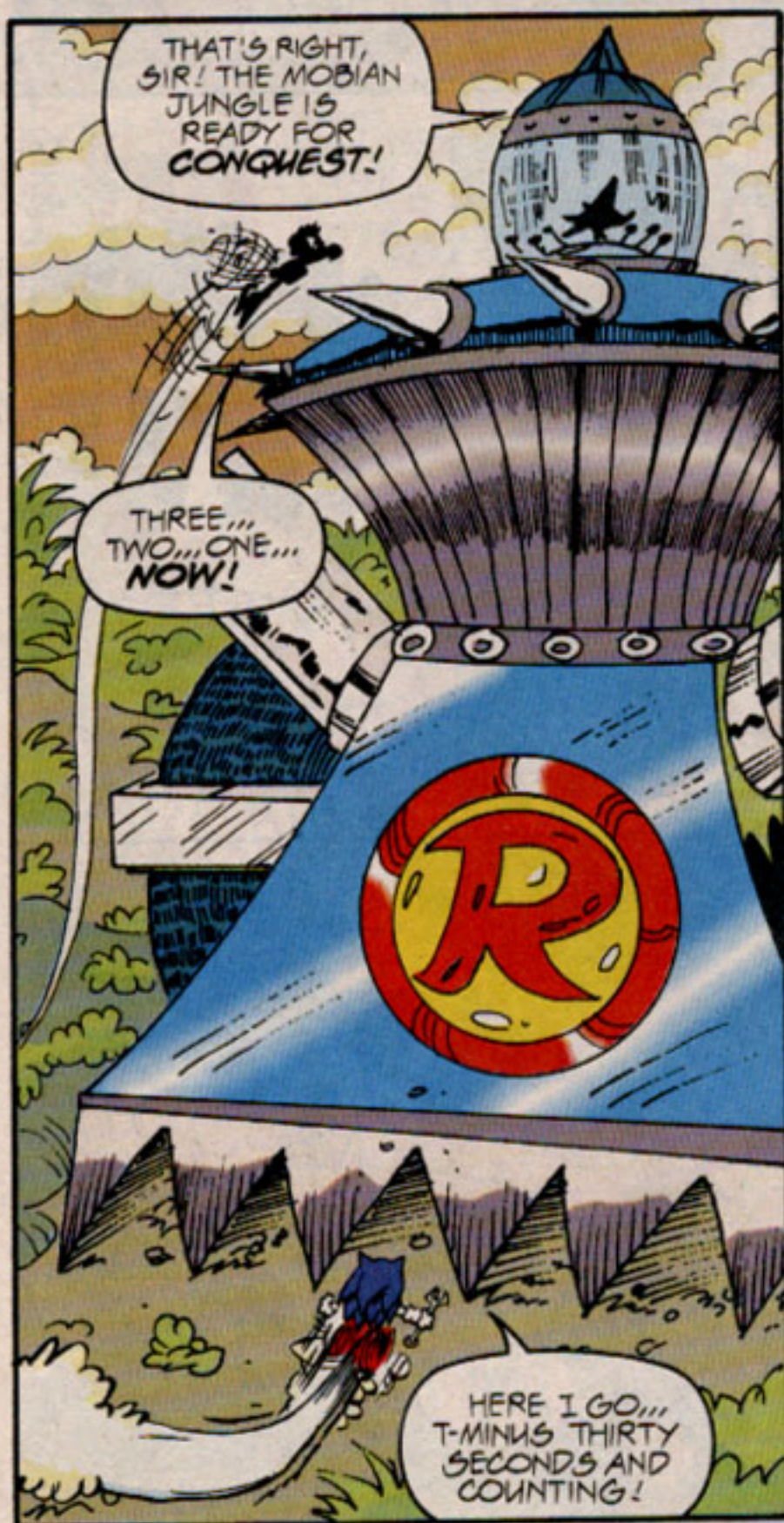






THAT'S WHY YOU'VE GOT TO DISTRACT HIM! KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR WATCH, TAILS!

OKAY, SONIC! FIVE... FOUR...



THAT'S RIGHT, SIR! THE MOBIAN JUNGLE IS READY FOR CONQUEST!

THREE... TWO... ONE... NOW!

HERE I GO... T-MINUS THIRTY SECONDS AND COUNTING!

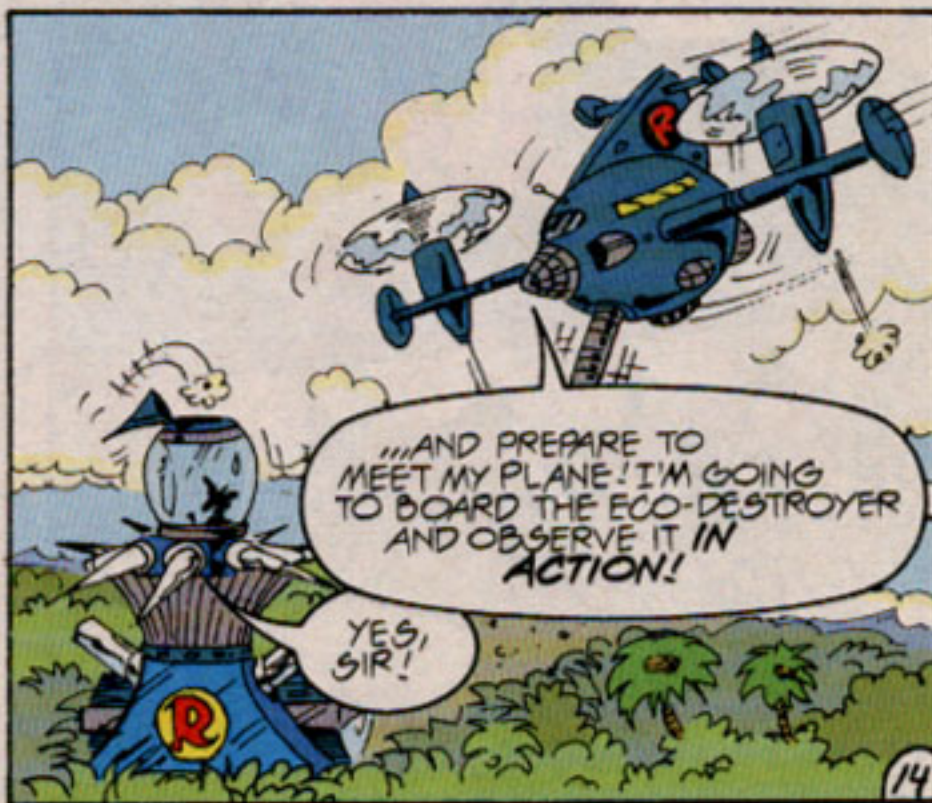
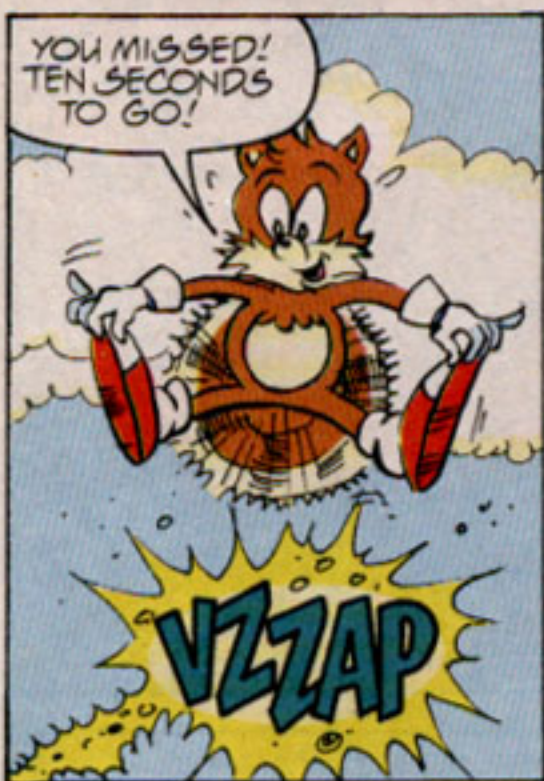
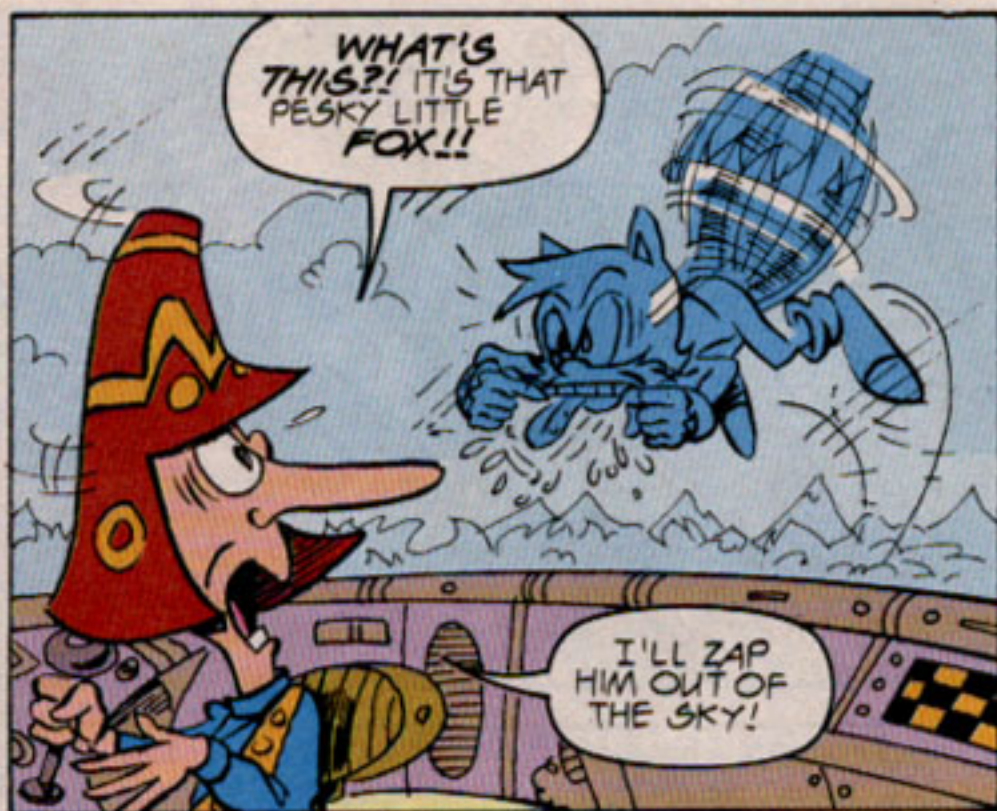


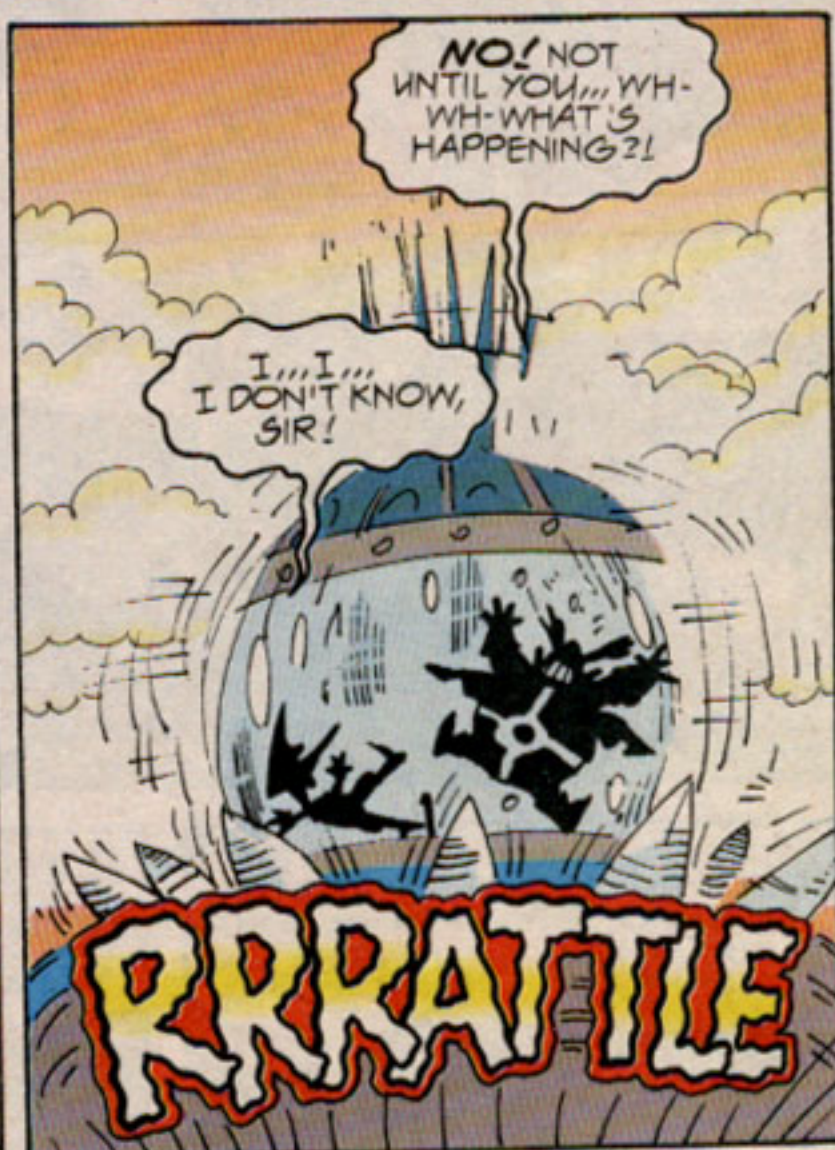
I'VE ALSO GOT A **SURPRISE PRISONER** FOR YOU, SIR! Heh-Heh-Heh!

NEVER MIND THAT... I'M **STILL** NOT CONVINCED THAT I CAN BE **COMFORTABLE** IN THE JUNGLE!

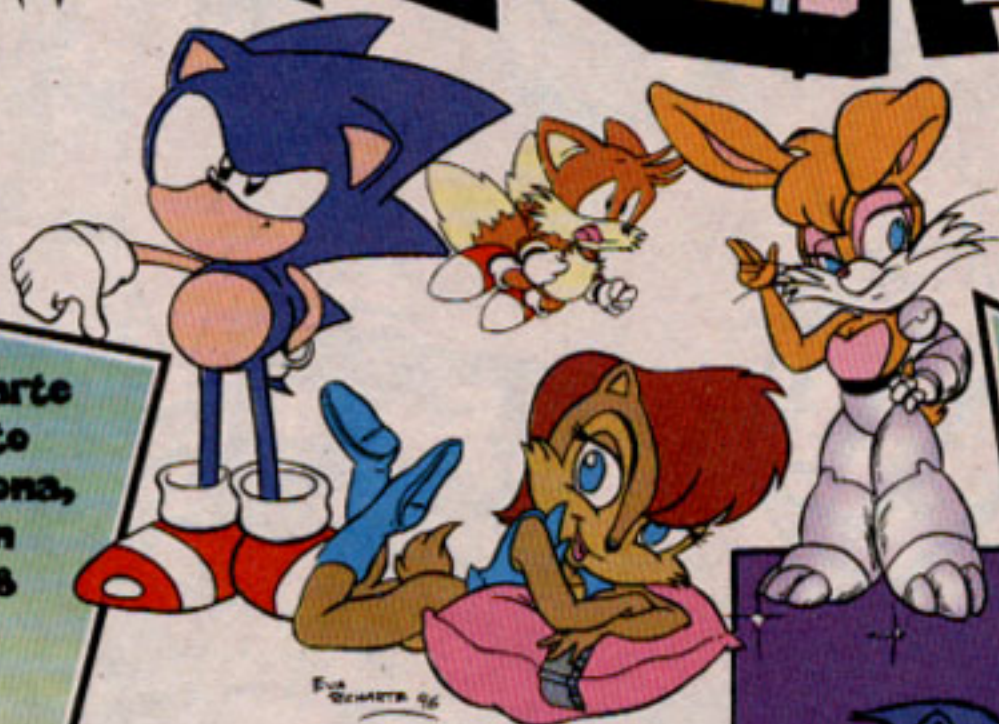


I WANT YOU TO CONTINUE CLEARING AWAY AS MUCH FOLIAGE AS POSSIBLE BEFORE MY PLANE ARRIVES! UNDERSTOOD, SNIVELY?



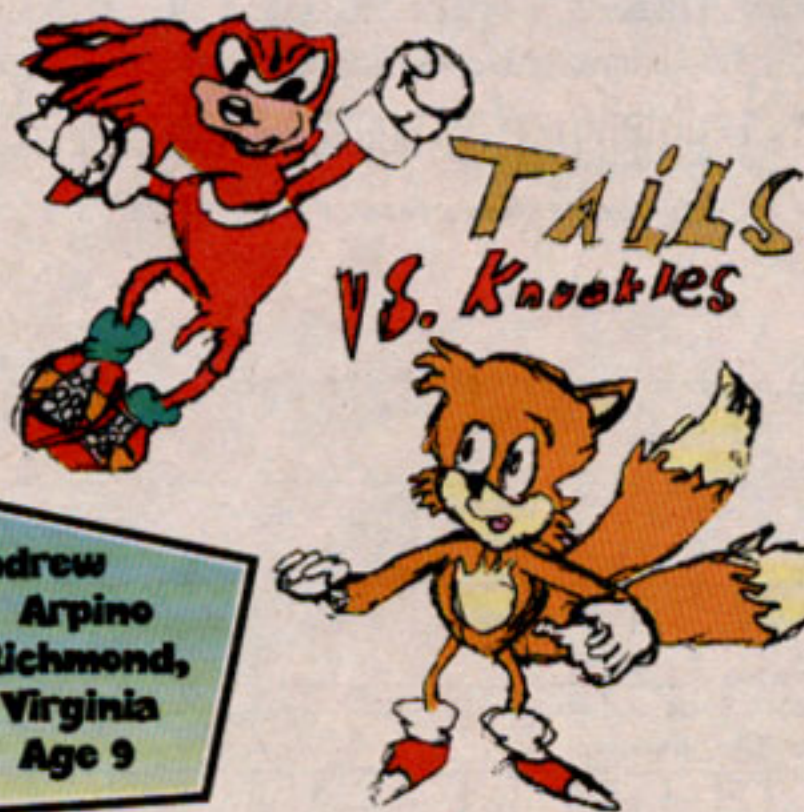


FAN ART

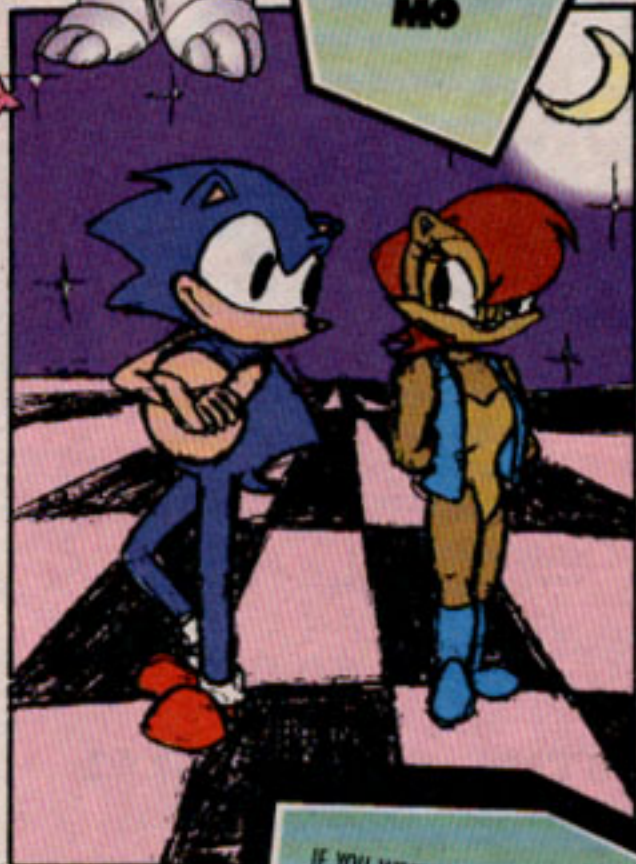


Eva Richarte
Barcelona,
Spain
Age 18

Sarah Waldram
Raytown,
MO



Andrew Arpino
Richmond,
Virginia
Age 9



IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR DRAWING
PRINTED, PLEASE SEND A BLACK &
WHITE COPY OF YOUR ART
(NO ORIGINALS)
TO: "FAN ART"
c/o ARCHIE COMIC
PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY
10543-0419

THE "FIND YOUR NAME IN PRINT PAGE"

**THANKS
TO
LETTER-
WRITERS
AND
ARTISTS:**

Nicholas Reyes, Ben Quiles, Luis Quiles Jr., Jered Evelo, Chris Wisehan, Matthew Ray, Tim Howd (Age 8), John Paul Burca, Ivan Martinez,

Jeffrey Heaton (age 11), Billy Malcom, Megan Heikkinen (Age 9), Andre R. Frattino (A.R.F.), Kyle Render, Joel Gewecke, Shawn Naish, Lindsey Johnson, Anthony Randolph, Lance Luka, David Imbrico, Paul R. Wilson, Brian Reyes, Jessica Vidana, Keenan Witt, Allison Francis, Kevin Gates, Audrey Fry, Sebastian Hernandez, Dustin Kapinos, Ricardo Jimenez, Juan Perez, Kyle Andrade, Clayton Smith, Scott Soptick, Travis Mathena, Legan Kendrick, Steve Stoctenlo, Vance McBride, Ethan Judd, Jonathan Banasihen, Shannon Pence, Dawn Best, Justin Fisher, Robby Thompson, Kathy McMullen, Jarryd Haines, Ben Hofman, Mark Willman, Mannon Wills, Micah Zak, Tanner Tarpley, Dustin Jordan, Chris Nettles, Marvin Garcia, Robbie Blackstorm, Rosa Lopez, Aaron Wood, Staci George, Tim Falk, Scott Forney, Paul Shelton, DJ Kennedy, Michael Melvold, Wesley Smith, Francisco Ortega, Sean Soptick, Louis Osborne, Vonny Logan, Danny Basista, Ryan Stowe, Shawn Bonneau, Michele Harris, Matthew Mego, Shane Madere, Adam Garret, Bob Mulligan, Adam Baker, Bryon Beauliez, Alexis Candelaria, Peter Borough, Nathan Wampler, Jessie Reeder, Brandon Nishanian, Myles Rhodes, Monique Davis, Michael Tomlin, Brian Edwards, Matthew Bouzines, Nicole Martinez, Scott Game, Jesse Malin, Cody Woempner, Erian Meszaros, James Clark, Chris Hammond, David Harrington, Martin Gronback, Timothy Bell, Julio DelCid, Shane Dixon, Kyle Render, Elliot Doshier, Alisha Cuning, Brittany Resler, Michael Cufel, Alex Garzaliss, James Roy, Jennie Adolf, Steven Smith, Cody Wilford, Elizabeth Berndt, Ashely Lemar, Austin Moore, David Hayes, Collin Davis, Jeffery Blair, Albert Fiorello, Cory Starwood, Christopher Nicholson, Staci George, Chris Monteparo, Kurt Diehl, Zachary Moning, Lily Martinez, Jake Self, Chris Kujawa, Dennis Douglas, Jack Henery, Christopher Lockhart, Michael Myers, Mike Wharton, Ronald Gross, Justyn Boyers, Christopher Lockhart, Caleb Knox, Alyssa Elliot, Kevin Chase, Dustin Reese, David Myers, Matt Burt, Dawn Best, Andrew Kotch, Jacob Zollinger, Shane Erickson, Alex Gohl, Lachlan Butler, Erick Crighton, Josue Benavidez, Jared Slawson, Erick Morgan, Jadon Brown, Ruth Grisham, Graham Morrison, Vanessa Wagner, Nathan Jenkins, Robert Schraer, Daneil Brooks, David Callies, Barry Maturanich, Denes Csirke, Justin Reid, Nick Riha, Colas Lamison, Hermie Castillo, Alex Arnica, Chris Borer, Nate Cross, Melody Hillard,

Jared Davie, Eli Lozano, Stephen Fond, Spike Wible, Lyndsay Smith, Daren Kopp, Jon Lee, Greg Meck, Kyle Roth, Jamie Foreman, Alex Grabenhofer, Matt Joiner, Erick Meinhard, Sean McKnight, Nathan Deer, Jeanette Hall, Stephen Rothwell, Ian Quatey, Trebor Piatt, Dusty Ater, Josiah Lee, Katie Kinkel, Nicole Orso, Moses Ayala, Brian Cox, Matthew J. Michael Bell, Logan Hickling, Jared Matte, Briana Land, Brian Lemmon, Joshua Curtis, William Belcher, Matthew VanMullen, Jonathan Cipolla, Josh Jones, James Frazier, Kaarina Mackowski, Alex Stanford, Allen Rawling, Matt Yannetti, Gary Whitford, Jason Cohen, Mike Ramsey, Devin Hartshorn, Matthew Newell, Jihad Bratcheer, Joshua Hupper, Billy Gomez, Lucas Stegkamper, Jerney Morten, Darrell Bennett, Jennifer Ryburn, Kevin Stewart, Adam Backer, Brell Brimmer, Mike Palmer, Charels Calabria, Niko Olympiadis, Tim Barron, Casey Calberts, Arthur Fabian, Joseph Emery, Justin Piatt, Cody Branden, Alex Calex, (Singapore) Lauren Brimmer, Daniel Ducic, Shane Edwards, Andrew McFarlin, Quinn Nelson, Mary Jones, Christine Ayres, Jared Lavender, Joshua Curtis, Charles Jones, Chris Bechtloff, John Ojigzmo, T.J. Humble, Douglas Curtis, Samantha Sharpe, Nicholas Horvath, Jason Oliver, Tanner White, Jaime Doware, Joshua Schreiber, Daniel French, Alec Mayian, Nick Heffner, Stephen Williams, Jim Kolesar, Danny Kaszuba, Tomy Pursifield, Justin Kurt, Josh Ebel, Thomas Emele, Kevin Madore, Evan Graves, Cody Kolesar, Liana Cooper, Michael Brown, Max Blaxman, Adam Brown, Anthony Randolph, Sean Luoma, Billy Baker, Ian Kimura, Shella Man, Andy Rumei, Joy Nappo, Shannon Pence, Brandon Miles, Trevor Jaques, Nick Flowers, Chris Vanzwam, Jim Hadady, Michael Hodge, Jenny Torres, Chris Hoey, Sean Luoma, Marshall Hunt, Warren Short, Paul Ferrater, Jonathan Duranczy, Brian Siedenber, Kenny Rioux, Warren Short, Riley Tucker, Nic Luciano, Jonathan Campbell, Mickey McKinney, Sebastian Muller, Joseph Kopl, Charles Rotcliff, Cesar Gil, Kyle Barlow, Zach Ostrem, Calzin Dungeon, Britnay Deal, Lalita Browns, David Cunningham, Derek Bowel, Joe Soosiah, Robbi Mclean, John Comeau, Michael Hesse, Briana Bergland, Sam Laska, Donald Howd, Josh Mellin, Christian Huebher, Nathan Gurley, Nick Solomon, Francis Machorn, and Michael Reyes!

**THANKS
GUYS AND
GALS! KEEP
WRITING IN!**

ACCEPTING THE MANTLE OF GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA KNEW HIS LIFE WOULD BE FRAUGHT WITH STALWART CHALLENGES...

EVER THE STAUNCH HERO, HE ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT HIS LIFE WOULD BE LADEN WITH PERIL...

PAT...PAT...PAT!

SWAK!

BUT WHEN HE MADE A VOW TO PRINCESS SALLY TO UNEARTH KING ACORN'S MISSING ROYAL SWORD...*

... NOT EVEN IN HIS WILDEST DREAMS DID HE BELIEVE HE'D END UP LITTLE MORE THAN A TRAINED SEAL!

MY BODY MAY BE ENSLAVED, BUT MY THOUGHTS ARE STILL MY OWN!

GOT TO REMEMBER HOW I WOUND UP HERE-- THINK OF A WAY OUTTA THIS MESS!

PEEL ME ANOTHER GRAPE, SLAVE!

KNUCKLES
QUEST 3:
A LAND
OF DARK
A KNIGHT
OF VIRTUE!

* WHO DOESN'T REMEMBER THE EVENTS DEPICTED IN SONIC #42 -- J. Freddy

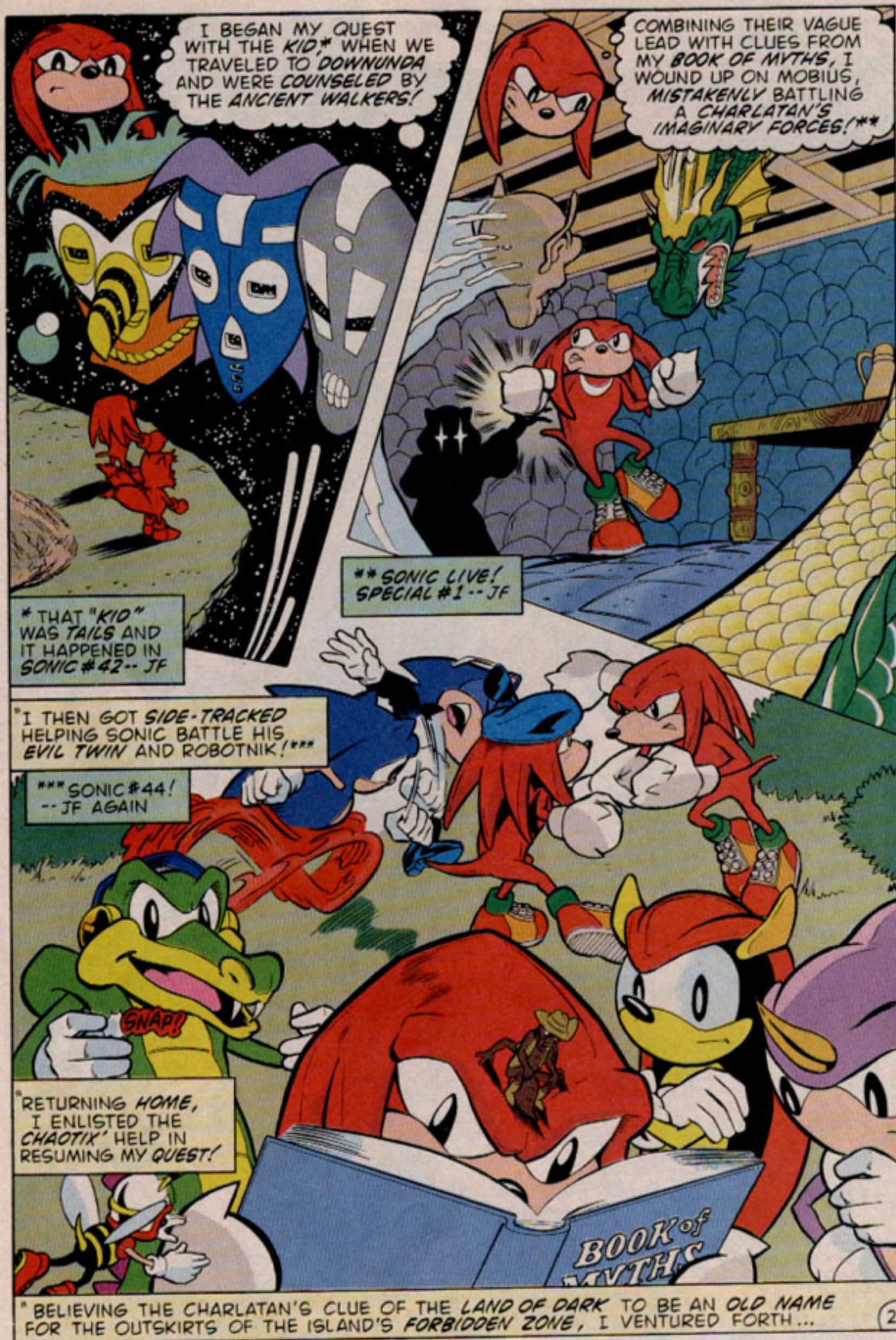
KEN PENDERG &
KENT TAYLOR
WRITERS

KEN PENDERG
ARTIST

JAY OLIVERAS
INK ASSIST

M. EISMAN
LETTERER

BARRY GROSSMAN
COLORIST



I BEGAN MY QUEST
WITH THE KID,* WHEN WE
TRAVELED TO DOWNUNDA
AND WERE COUNSELED BY
THE ANCIENT WALKERS!

COMBINING THEIR VAGUE
LEAD WITH CLUES FROM
MY BOOK OF MYTHS, I
WOUND UP ON MOBIUS,
MISTAKENLY BATTLING
A CHARLATAN'S
IMAGINARY FORCES!**

* THAT "KID"
WAS TAILS AND
IT HAPPENED IN
SONIC #42-- JF

** SONIC LIVE!
SPECIAL #1-- JF

I THEN GOT SIDE-TRACKED
HELPING SONIC BATTLE HIS
EVIL TWIN AND ROBOTNIK!***

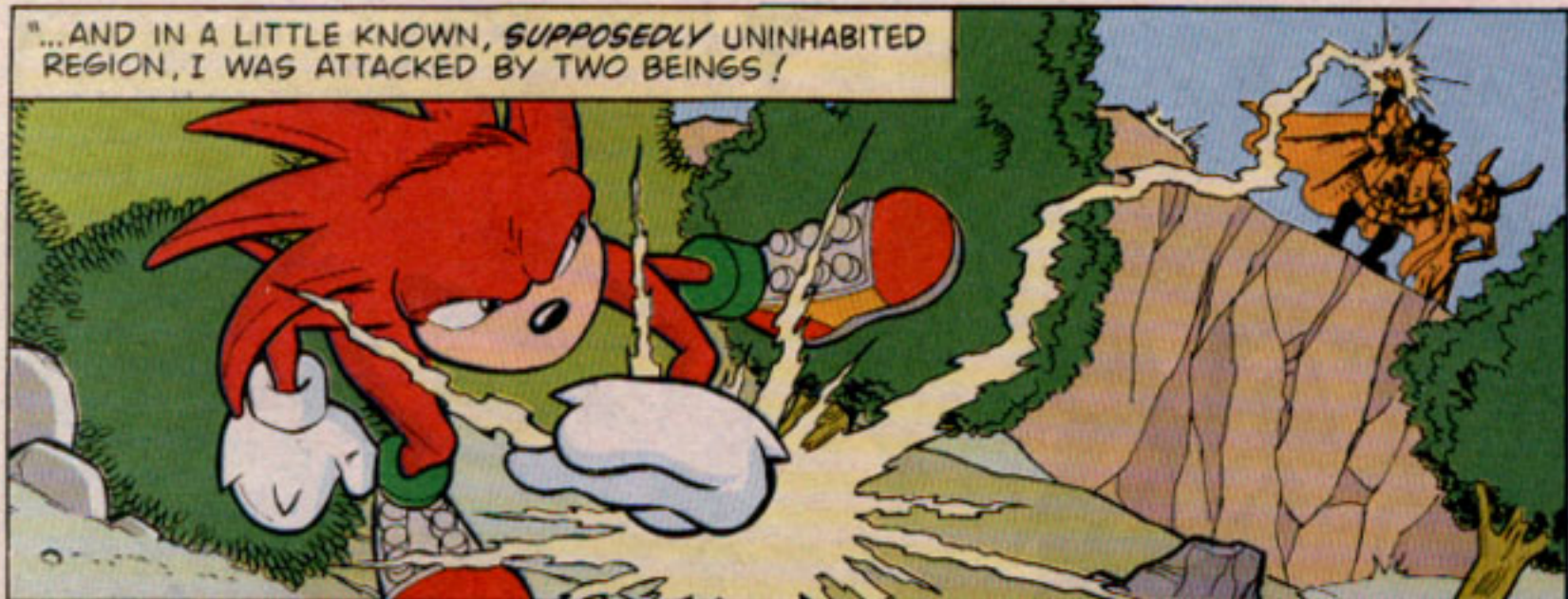
*** SONIC #44!
-- JF AGAIN

RETURNING HOME,
I ENLISTED THE
CHAOTIX* HELP IN
RESUMING MY QUEST!

BOOK OF
MYTHS

* BELIEVING THE CHARLATAN'S CLUE OF THE LAND OF DARK TO BE AN OLD NAME
FOR THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE ISLAND'S FORBIDDEN ZONE, I VENTURED FORTH...

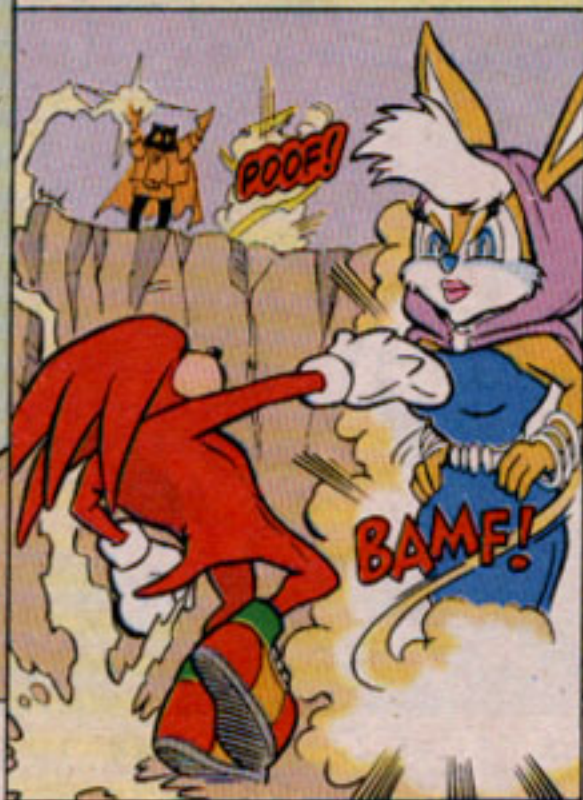
"...AND IN A LITTLE KNOWN, SUPPOSEDLY UNINHABITED REGION, I WAS ATTACKED BY TWO BEINGS!



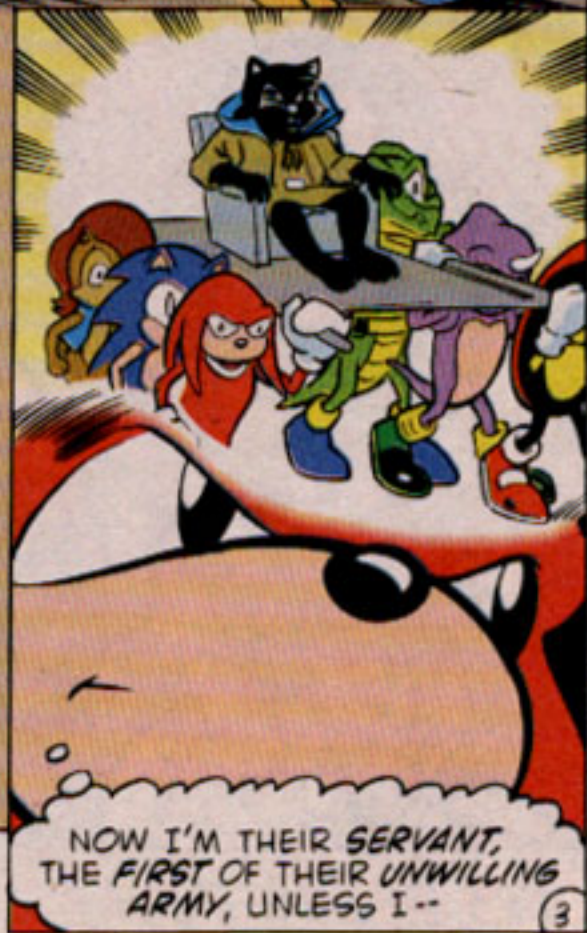
CONSIDERING THE ANCIENT WALKERS' WARNINGS, AND THE WAY THEY DOUBLE-TEAMED ME, I KNEW THEY MUST BE...



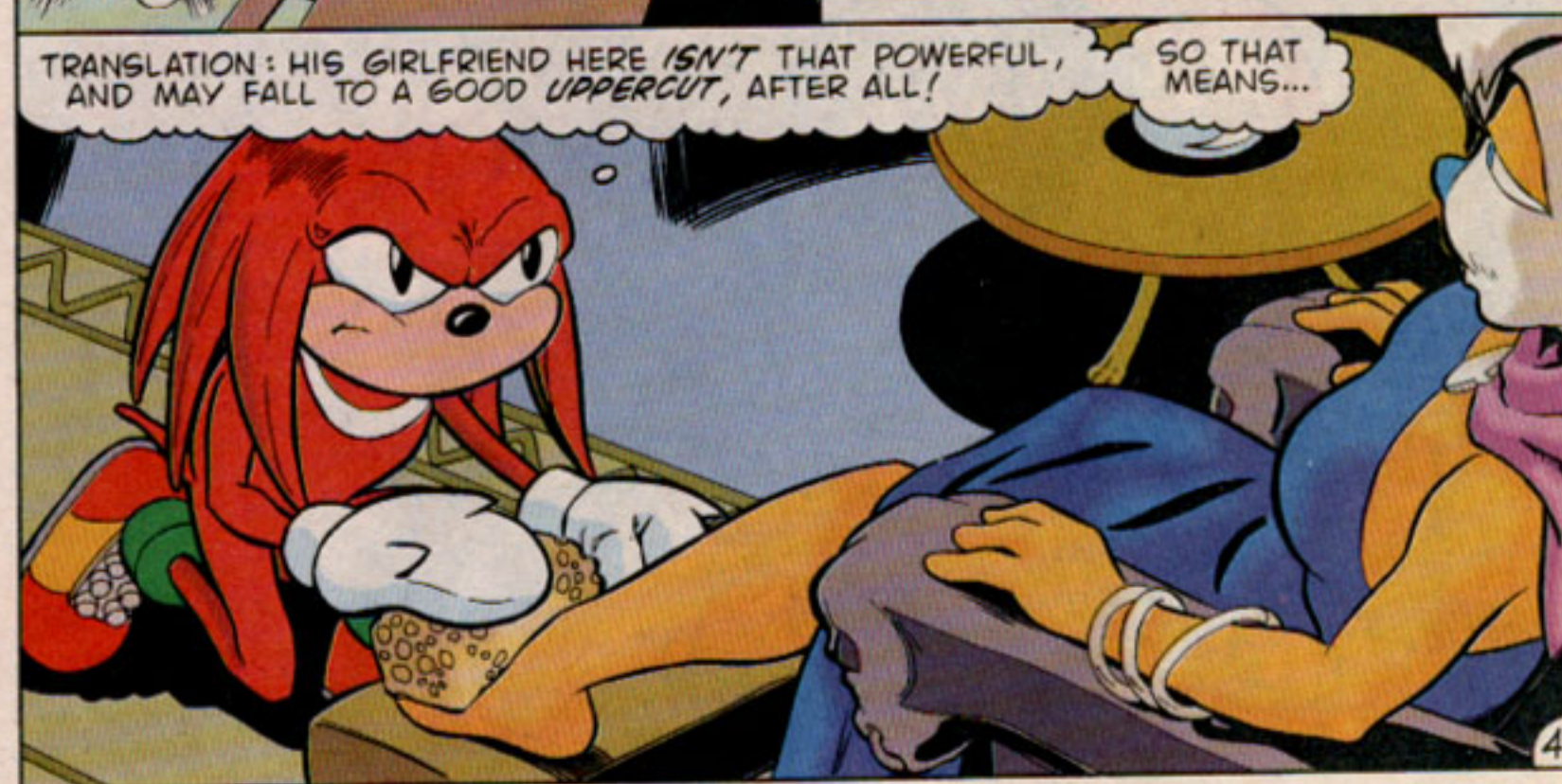
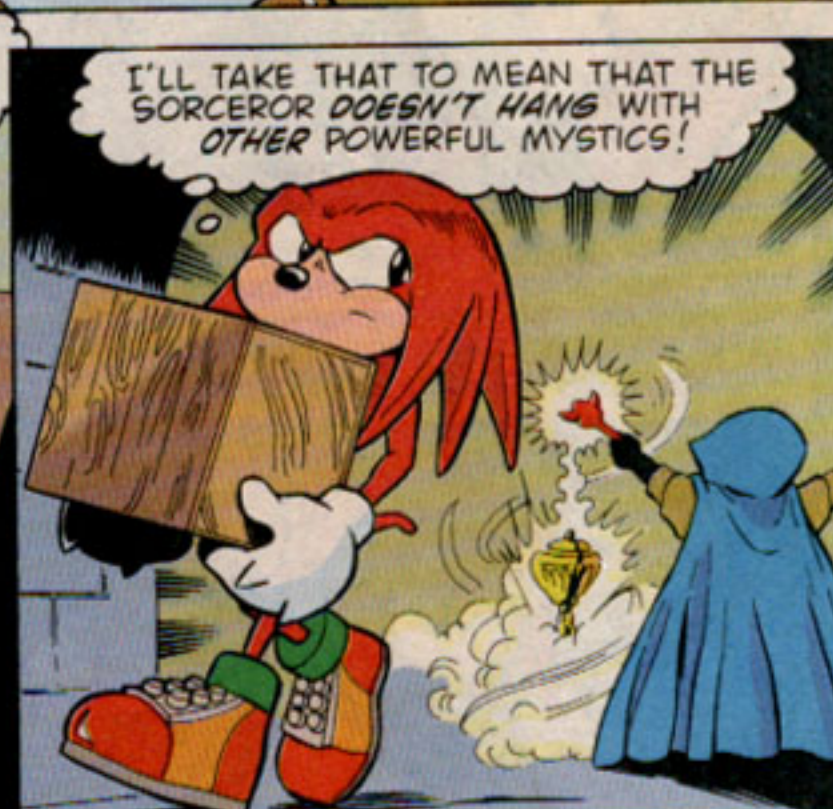
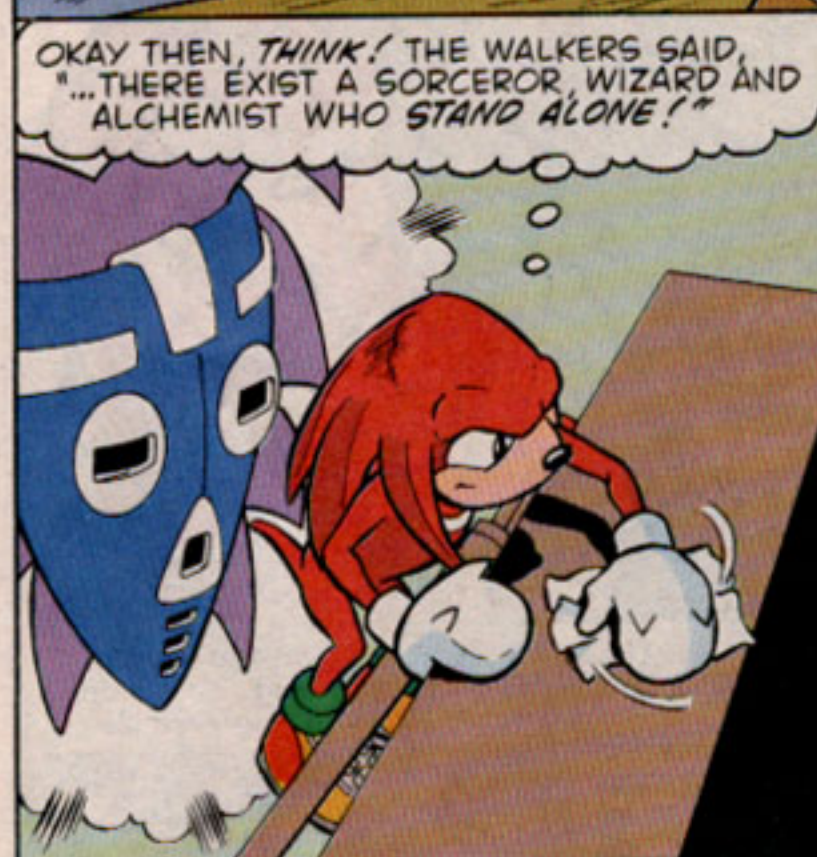
"DODGING HIS BLASTS LEFT ME WIDE OPEN-- WITH ONE LOOK, SHE CONTROLLED MY WILL!"



THE SORCEROR! AND THE ENCHANTRESS!



NOW I'M THEIR SERVANT, THE FIRST OF THEIR UNWILLING ARMY, UNLESS I--



STAY CALM! OKAY-- "A CHARLATAN, ENCHANTRESS AND PALADIN WITH FAIRNESS AND COURAGE THOU MUST FACE, WITH PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE A BLADE OF STEEL THOU MAY EMBRACE!"

I'VE FACED A CHARLATAN, I'M FACING THE ENCHANTRESS, I DON'T SEE A PALADIN-- FORCING ME TO JUST BE PATIENT!

THROUGH SHEER STRENGTH OF WILL, THE UNYIELDING ECHIDNA PASSES ON, PERFORMING MENIAL TASK AFTER MENIAL TASK, THE HOURS TURNING INTO DAYS...

WITH VIRTUALLY ALL HOPE GONE AND DESPERATION DESCENDING, AS IF BY DIVINE RIGHT HIS FAITH OF PERSERVERANCE IS REAFFIRMED!

WHAT'S THAT?!

RRRII UMBBLE

IT SOUNDS LIKE A STAMPEDE OF HORSES! (5)

WHAT HO', VARLETS! DID YOU THINK TO FOREVER ESCAPE THE JUDGEMENT OF SIR CONNERY, THE MIGHTY CRUSADER!

OR THAT THIS EVIL WITCH'S GAZE COULD OVERCOME MY SWORD OF JUSTICE?!

SKA-RASH!

BEWARE! IT IS THAT FANATICAL PALADIN!

THE WAITING GAME PAID OFF! I'M FREE!

THIS GUY'S ONSLAUGHT DISTRACTED THE ENCHANTRESS, BREAKING HER MENTAL MUZZLE!

NOW IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR--

ACTION CITY!!

BOY, DOES THIS FEEL GOOD!

WHAM!

AFTER SECURING THE PRISONERS, INTRODUCTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS ARE MADE...

--AND I LEFT MY POST IN KING ACORN'S ROYAL GUARD WHEN THE CALL CAME UPON ME TO PURGE BLACK MAGIC FROM ALL THE REALMS!

WHAT ABOUT YOUR SWORD? IS IT THE KING'S?

NO, IT WAS GIVEN TO ME BY MY PATRON DIETIES, THE ANCIENT WALKERS!

HEY! SINCE I'M THEIR NUMBER ONE BOY, WHY DON'T YOU JOIN ME?

I CANNOT! MY SWORN OATH DEMANDS THE TOTAL PURGING OF EVIL MAGICIANS BEFORE I JOURNEY THE NEXT LEG OF MY HOLY CRUSADE!

BUT I CAN TELL YOU THIS--LOCATE THE EVIL MATHIAS POE AND DAMOCLES THE ELDER AND YOU MAY FIND THAT WHICH YOU SEEK!

AND WHERE DO THEY HANG THEIR HATS?

LOOK NOT TO THE CAVERN FILLED WITH CHAOS, BUT TO THE FLOATING ISLAND'S OTHER CAVERNS FILLED WITH CHAOS!

SOUNDS LIKE ANOTHER GOOSE CHASE, BUT AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO TRAVEL FAR!

WELL, WHATEVER IT TAKES, I'LL FIND THAT SWORD!

KNUCKLES' QUEST CONCLUDES NEXT ISSUE! DON'T MISS IT!

SONIC-GRAMS

THIS JUST IN!

J. Freddy Gabrie
Editor

A reminder that this month is the debut of "KNUCKLES: THE DARK LEGION" a new three-issue mini-series! When a technological army known only as **The Dark Legion** invades **The Floating Island**, it's up to **Knuckles** and **The Chaotix** to find out what they're up to. Just what is the Dark Legion? And what does it have to do with Knuckles' past, present and future? More revelations will be made on the mysterious history of the **Echidnas**, including Knuckles' lineage as "**Guardian of the Floating Island!**" **Bonus:** All three covers combine to make one big image! Collect all three!

Also next month ...in **SONIC #46**: **Princess Sally** takes **The Freedom Fighter** team out camping to reflect on recent events. What was to be some time for rest and relaxation quickly turns into heated confrontations concerning each other's loyalty! **Geoffrey St. John** along with **Lupe** and **The Wolfpack** (from the animated series) make a special appearance. Don't miss this one as it sets us up for the awesome roller-coaster ride of "**END GAME!**" the four-part story that will lead us into Sonic's 50th anniversary issue! Don't say I didn't warn you.

FREDDY

Dear Sonic-Grams,

It happened when I saw the cover. It was more than my mind could comprehend! Little did I know that the masterpiece of a cover to **SONIC #39** was just the beginning. I was treated to a Mike Gallagher story with beautiful illustrations by Spaz with the assistance of the Bri-guy! The whole thing was so #S@! good that I had to sit and have a good cry to help me realize that such marvels exist out of heaven. The comics have now surpassed anything the cartoon ever did (and that ain't just suck-

ing up, either)! My favorite thing about Spaz is his frequent references to other Sega-related games. I recall seeing **The Chaotix**, the **Saturn** logo, and **Akira** in issue #25. In issue #39, I spotted a **Virtual On** calendar, a **Bug!** poster, a **Guardian Heroes** poster, and a **Panzer Dragoon II: Zwei** poster.

I have to agree with **Brian Edwards**. Even though they don't make Sega CD games anymore, it's still worth the price just to play **Sonic CD!** The soundtrack in that was easily the best music ever created by man

SEND LETTERS TO:
SONIC-GRAMS #45
C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419
email address: Benny7Dude@aol.com

Because of limited space, the editors cannot guarantee that all correspondence will be published and reserve the right to edit messages as they see fit.

(much credit to Spencer Nilsen), which is why I'm really excited about Sonic 3-D Blast this year and Sonic X-Treme next year. One last thing: the almighty creator of Sonic, Yuji Naka, has made another game... "Nights" for the Saturn is said by some to be better than Sonic. I find that hard to swallow, but one way or another this game will go down in video game history, and I think you should have a comic special about it. Don't ever stop making Sonic comics!

Sonic-cerely,
Jared Matte
Church Point, LA

Dear Sonic
and the creators,

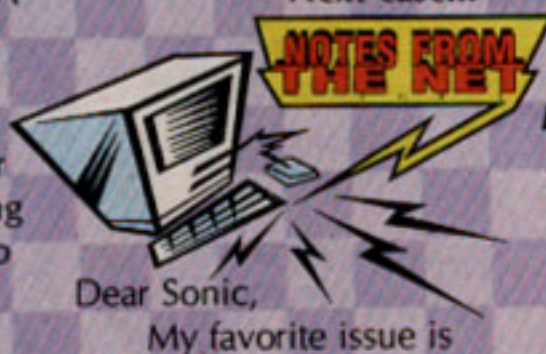
I loved the "MECHA MADNESS" 48-page Special. I have to say * you looked awesome in that robot form! Another thing, Sonic, you're being way too inconsiderate to my man Knux. He did save some Freedom

Fighter butts. Don't hate him. He's cool like you. Sorry about that treason thing. I hope you get Nack the Weasel for me. And does Sally really like Knuckles a lot? But back to the comic, I really liked the plot and the art. Very cool!!!

Justin Barrett
Brooklyn, NY

What's doing, J-sters (Jared & Justin)? Glad to hear "The Mecha Madness" story-line got two thumbs up. As awesome as I looked being Mecha-Sonic, I didn't feel awesome at all. And as for Sally liking Knuckles, she better not! Especially when she's got a cool blue dude like me around!

Next case...



SONIC #39! Spaz is such a terrific artist! I also like all the specials. They're cool. If any other net-surfers are out there, don't be shy, come and visit us online! You can chat with other fans, download cool art, learn about your favorite characters and even see some new ones found only in Japan! Currently, I don't have a home page but you can E-mail me. See you later, Hedgehog fans!

Ruby the Echidna
wearepsu@mail.csrlink.net

What's so cool about echidnas these days? Hedgehogs are way cooler! "Ruby the Hedgehog"... I like the sound of that!

Remember, net-surfers, all messages considered for "Note From The Net" must say so in your subject heading and E-mailed to: Benny7dude@aol.com. Hasta la vista, misters and sisters!

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685). 1. Publication Title: Sonic The Hedgehog. 2. Publication No. 1070-3090 3. Filing Date: September 27, 1996. 4. Issue Frequency: 12 times a year. 5. No. of Issues Published Annually: 12. 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$18.00. 7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. 8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. 9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor: Publisher: Michael I. Silberkleit, 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318; Editor: Richard H. Goldwater, 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318; Managing Editor: Victor Gorelick, 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. 10. Owner: Sega of America, Inc., 255 Shoreline Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065. 11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None. 12. Not Applicable. 13. Publication Name: Sonic The Hedgehog. 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: October '95 - Sept. '96. 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: 15A. Total No. Copies: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 194766. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 186299. 15B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 1. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 62129. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 68370. 2. Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 5481. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 5480. 15C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 67610. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 73850. 15D. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 245. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 245. 15E. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or Other Means): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 309. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 317. 15F. Total Free Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 554. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 562. 15G. Total Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 68164. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 74412. 15H. Copies Not Distributed: 1. Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 14651. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 13774. 2. Returns From News Agents: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 111951. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 98113. 15I. Total: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 194766. Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 186299. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 99.19%. Actual No. Copies Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 99.24%. 16. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the April '97 issue of this publication. 17. I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete. For completion by publishers mailing at the regular rates (Section 132.121, Postal Service Manual): U.S.C. 3526 provides in pertinent part: "no person who would have been entitled to mail matter under former section 4359 of this title shall mail such matter at the rates provided under this subsection unless he files annually with the Postal Service a written request for permission to mail matter at such rates." In accordance with the provisions of this statute, I hereby request permission to mail the publication named in Item 1 at the phased postage-rates presently authorized by 39 U.S.C. 3526. Fred Mausser Vice President-Director Of Circulation.